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Hamas claims Ramle killings

Police crack down on employers and illegal workers

RAINE MARCUS and BILL HUTMAN

POLICE last night launched a nationwide crackdown on illegal Palestinian workers and their employers, in response to Friday's double murder by terrorists in Ramle.

Police Inspector-General Assaf Hefetz blamed building contractors who employ Palestinians without permits for the murders.

"They should be held responsible not only for employing residents of the territories illegally, but for allowing those who do have authorization to sleep overnight here," Hefetz said.

He urged contractors to carefully examine laborers' credentials before hiring them.

"Contractors are responsible for residents' safety - or lack of it," Hefetz told a press conference yesterday. "They [contractors] are harboring potential terrorists, against all regulations."

Police, he added, take great pains to enforce the law and patrol areas for Arabs who are here illegally, but receive no cooperation from contractors.

"I hope that in future employers will take more responsibility," he said.

Police sources put the number of illegal Palestinian workers in Israel at several thousand. No official figure was available. For the past several months, between 600 and 800 illegal Palestinian workers were detained weekly, fined, and returned to the territories, according to police.

In addition, about 50 Israeli employers weekly have been found to have hired Palestinians without the proper documentation to work within the Green Line.

Police sources said that during most weeks, patrols throughout the country visit some 2,000 to 2,500 locations in search of illegal workers.

The operation launched last night was aimed at "lessening the presence of illegal workers inside the Green Line," according to the police spokesman.

Regular police units, together with the Border Police and Civil Guard units, are to take part in the operation.

Police hope heavier penalties, in addition to the fines now imposed by the Labor Ministry, would be used against

employers of illegal workers, the spokesman added.

Hefetz, who was the commander of the central district before being appointed inspector-general, has repeatedly warned contractors of the dangers of employing Arabs from the territories.

Following the murder of Isaac Rotstein at a building site in Petah Tikva in March, when the area was still under his jurisdiction, Hefetz described contractors as "guilty of murder."

If the murderers escaped back to the Gaza Strip, responsibility for their capture is now with the Palestinian Police.

"This is a test for them, their ability, and willingness to cooperate," he said.

Hefetz said he anticipates possible unrest and demonstrations in the towns of Bat Yam and Holon, where victims Gil Revah and Shlomo Kapach had lived, but by last night no disturbances had been reported.

Police Minister Moshe Shahal also accused contractors of gross irresponsibility and said that, following

consultations with Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, it had been decided to bring employers who hire illegal laborers to trial.

"Offenders not only face fines, but may also face more severe punishments in court, which hopefully will act as a deterrent," Shahal said.

He ruled out the possibility of sealing of the territories following the murders.

"The government has issued authorization to those residents of the territories who are thought fit to work here," he said. "Why should those innocent people be punished and face forced unemployment, because of the deeds of those who sneak in here?"

Around three weeks ago the government raised the number of entry permits issued to Palestinian workers to 55,000.

Shahal said he hopes that if, as Hamas has declared, the perpetrators found their way back to the Gaza Strip, the Palestinian Police will prove their willingness to implement the autonomy agreement and track the murderers down.

"The agreement demands their full cooperation," he said.

HAMAS took responsibility yesterday for Friday's murder of two Jewish workers, whose throats were slashed at their Ramle building site.

Five Palestinian laborers from Rafiah are suspected of killing elevator technicians Shlomo Kapach, 22, of Holon and Bat Yam resident Gil Revah, 21. Police say the murderers left a cigarette pack at the scene, on which were scrawled words in Arabic connecting the murder to Hamas.

These are the first terrorist murders committed inside the Green Line since the implementation of autonomy in May.

The five, whose identities are known to police, were here illegally, said Central District chief Cmdr. Shlomo Aharonishki.

In a statement sent to Reuters's news agency, the terror organization said the murder was a revenge attack to mark six months since the Hebron massacre, when Dr. Baruch Goldstein shot to death 29 Moslems at prayer in the Cave of Machpelah.

The organization also pledged to carry out two more terrorist attacks in Israel by the end of this year.

The government issued a statement last night calling on the Palestinian Authority to apprehend the killers and turn them over to Israel. Yasser Abed Rabbo, the PA's Minister of Culture, yesterday condemned the killings.

The five assailants apparently collected their wages from the contractor employing them after murdering their victims, leaving the bodies strewn on the floor of a partially built fifth-floor apartment.

The bodies of the two friends were discovered when their families became worried after they failed to return from work at around 6 p.m. Their throats had been slashed with a knife, which was found later by police in an electricity box in the high-rise apartment block under construction, said Aharonishki.

The families contacted Moshe Revah, Gil's uncle and a partner in the Inter elevator company, which employed the two. Revah sent his works manager, Yitzhak Marom, to the site on Ramle's

Rehov Weizmann to search for them.

"When I got here I saw the company van outside and thought they must still be working on the elevator system," said Marom. "I shouted their names several times from outside the building, but they didn't reply. Then I made my way up to each story, shouting their names."

"They had only been working on the site for a few days - Revah was discharged from the army a month ago and came here to die, tragically," he said. Kapach had been employed by the company for a year.

Marom, believing "something strange had happened" contacted company director Nissim Vidas, who alerted Ramle police.

Police and Civil Guard volunteers scoured the building and found the two bodies, lying in different rooms.

"Since the self-rule agreement with the Palestinians, our fear of terror attacks had diminished," said Vidas.

Police set up roadblocks and launched a massive hunt for the five suspects.

"The murder was probably committed sometime in the afternoon," said Aharonishki. "The murderers had sufficient time to escape." Police and security forces have not ruled out the possibility that the terrorists are still in the central district, but are more inclined to believe they made their way back to Gaza. It is not known how they fled.

Police rounded up 60 residents of the territories illegally in the central district during Friday night and yesterday morning, said Aharonishki, and will continue hunting for Arabs here without authorization.

Following the murders, a group of angry Ramle residents gathered shouting anti-government slogans and pledging vengeance.

"Any Arab from the territories arriving here to work on Sunday will not get out alive," shouted one man.

Last night, hundreds of residents took to the streets to protest against the killings. Ramle Mayor Yoel Lavie called on residents to exercise restraint.

"This incident will not disturb warm relations between Jews and Arabs, who have always lived here (Continued on Page 2)



Cuban refugees cling to a raft off the Florida coast on Friday in their effort to flee their homeland. (Story, Page 3)

(AP)

Savir meets Moroccan leaders in Rabat

Jerusalem Post Staff

FOREIGN Ministry Director-General Uri Savir held meetings in Rabat on Friday with Moroccan Prime Minister Abdellatif Filali, King Hassan's economic adviser Andre Azoulay and other senior Moroccan officials.

The talks focused on the intensive preparations underway in Morocco for the three-day Middle East/North Africa Economic Summit to begin in Casablanca on October 30.

Savir and his hosts agreed that alongside the political moves, progress must be made in developing the economic side of peace.

It was decided that the two countries will continue to cooperate in planning the conference. Foreign Minister Shimon Peres has been the driving force for the first-ever Middle East business conference, which was originally to have been held in Amman.

Some 1,000 businessmen are expected to attend the conference. Representatives of large companies based in the US, Europe, Japan, Israel and Arab countries will arrive to explore business opportunities in the region.

The conference will discuss different business sectors in the Middle East and North Africa including tourism, energy, transportation, water, communications, with the emphasis being placed on development projects which can advance cooperation in the region.

Savir will leave tomorrow for Washington, where he will meet with members of the team coordinating the US role in the Middle East peace process.

Shaath: Early empowerment pact to be signed at Erez tomorrow

News agencies

SENIOR PLO negotiator Nabil Shaath said yesterday that the Israeli-PLO agreement on extending elements of self-rule to the rest of the territories would be signed tomorrow at Erez checkpoint.

Shaath, speaking after a meeting of the Palestinian Authority (PA) that administers self-rule, said: "The Palestinian Authority has endorsed the agreement initiated in Alexandria and has authorized me to sign it on Monday at Erez."

Under the "early empowerment" accord hammered out in talks in Egypt and initiated on

Wednesday, Israel will hand over to the PLO control of education, health, taxation, tourism, and social welfare.

Palestinian sources said chief Israeli negotiator Mag.-Gen. Danny Rothchild, Shaath's counterpart in the talks, was likely to sign the agreement for Israel.

The cabinet will meet today to approve the agreement.

Full implementation of the handover of the five spheres of authority, which began on Wednes-

day with the beginning of the transfer of education ahead of the school year, will have to wait until foreign donor nations and institutions transfer promised funding to the cash-starved PA.

Shaath told reporters that agreements on border crossings and "safe passages" for Palestinians traveling through Israel - thorny elements of the original accord on Gaza and Jericho, details of which were deferred to allow self-rule to begin in May - would be implemented immediately after tomorrow's signing.

Six killed in Egyptian shootout

Terrorists threaten UN conference

CAIRO (AP) - Moslem extremists urged foreigners to stay away from next month's UN population conference in Cairo, saying they were "jeopardizing themselves" by joining discussions on immoral subjects.

The threat was contained in a fax sent to Western news agencies late Friday by the al-Gamaa al-Islamiya, or Islamic Group.

The group has been blamed for a two-year campaign of violence aimed at overthrowing Egypt's secular government and replacing it with strict Islamic rule.

Yesterday, police raided an Islamic Group hideout in southern Egypt as part of a broad search for militants who sprayed a tour bus with gunfire a day earlier, killing a 13-year-old Spanish boy and wounding four others.

The Interior Ministry, which is responsible for state security, said five extremists and a police colonel were killed in the shootout. A sixth extremist and an Egyptian soldier were wounded, it said.

The latest violence came less than 10 days before the UN International Conference on Population and Development is expected to bring about 15,000 visitors to Egypt.

Government officials have increased security in Cairo in advance of the September 5-13 conference and have expressed hope it will help rebuild Egypt's tourist business, which has been devastated by extremist violence.

In its fax, the Islamic Group warned that "all foreigners who are participating in the licentious conference ... are jeopardizing themselves."

It added: "The Islamic Group starts a new stage in its attacks [and] it appeals to all foreigners not to come to Egypt in the coming period to save their souls."

The Islamic Group made similar threats against Westerners in a series of faxes last February and March, but never carried off large attacks. The threats against foreign visitors and investors were followed by about 10 small bombs blasts outside banks.

In recent weeks, Moslem fundamentalists have stepped up criticism of the population conference, especially on issues such as abortion, equal rights for women and sex education for non-married people. Fundamentalist lawyers have filed suit trying to block the conference altogether.

In its latest fax, al-Gamaa also claimed responsibility for Friday's fatal bus attack.

The attack on the tour bus was near the town of Nag Hamadi, which is 460 km south of Cairo. Sohag, where the fundamentalists were cornered yesterday, is 80 km northwest of Nag Hamadi.

The Spanish boy, 13-year-old Pablo Rochan, was killed and four others were wounded when their tour bus was raked by gunfire.

The injured, including the boy's parents, were evacuated to a mili-

tary hospital in Cairo aboard an Egyptian air force plane, the Spanish Embassy said.

More than 400 people have been killed since extremists launched their campaign in the spring of 1992. Many of the victims have been policemen and radicals. Other targets have included government officials and minority Coptic Christians.

The Spanish boy was the fifth foreign tourist to die.

The attack on the tour bus was the first aimed at foreigners in three months. The previous attack was in May when militants shot at a train, wounding a railroad employee.

Cabinet to discuss NIS 793m. in cuts to budget today

JOSE ROSENFELD

THE cabinet will meet today for its final deliberations on next year's NIS 128.7 billion budget, before sending it on to the Knesset.

The Treasury will propose NIS 793 million in budget cuts, including a two percent reduction in the government workforce and lower job advancement expenditures.

It will also recommend NIS 2.393b. in new spending to cover financial assistance to the kibbutzim, the defense industries and Kupat Holim Clalit, and to pay for the redeployment of troops as a result of the autonomy agreement.

The budget proposal includes 28 structural reforms aimed at increasing the economy's competitiveness, lowering the cost of goods and services, and improving the public sector's efficiency.

However, the discussion on the proposal to lower subsidies to businesses in Development Zones A and B will be deferred to next week, to give Finance Minister Avraham Shohat a chance to meet with development town officials to explain the changes. Shohat will argue that most of the grant money goes directly into the investors' pockets, and fails to contribute to development town growth.

Industry and Trade Minister Micha Harish opposes the changes,

fearing that they will discourage investment.

The budget proposal includes NIS 2.07b. in tax cuts, aimed at stimulating the economy while lowering prices.

Today's budget deliberations will be interrupted to allow Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, Housing Minister Binyamin Ben-Eliezer and Shohat to inaugurate the new Shohat Hagai interchange on the Jerusalem-Tel Aviv highway.

Week's death toll on roads climbs to 21

DAVID RUDGE and Rim

FOUR people died in road accidents over the weekend, bringing last week's death toll on the roads to 21. Over 50 people were seriously injured.

The total number of road deaths for this year stands at 387.

A young woman was killed yesterday when the car in which she and a man were traveling overturned near the Arik Bridge on the northern reaches of Lake Kinneret. The man was taken to Poriya Hospital in critical condition.

Another fatal accident in the North occurred on the road between Ilabonn and Mughar villages in the Galilee. Police said it appeared that a car had crossed a solid white line to pass another vehicle, and collided head-on with an oncoming car.

The car that was hit was carrying a resident of Ilabonn, his wife, and their three children, aged seven, five and two.

The five-year-old was killed immediately and his younger brother suffered severe injuries, and was taken by MDA ambulance to Rambam Hospital. Their parents and the elder child, together with the four occupants of the car that has caused the accident, were taken to Poriya Hospital. All had suffered moderate to serious injuries.

A car thief was killed yesterday when he tried to elude police in a getaway car, which crashed into a wall in Lod yesterday. The driver of the getaway car was seriously injured.

Police said that two detectives came upon two thieves trying to break into a car in a local parking lot. The policemen blocked their way out of the lot, and the two jumped out of the car they had stolen and ran in opposite directions, with one jumping into the getaway car. The other escaped.

(Continued on Page 2)



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Hizbullah using long-range fire to maintain pressure on IDF

HIZBULLAH maintained its record of almost daily operations against the security zone, with more long-range firing yesterday at South Lebanese Army positions, sparking fierce exchanges.

There were no casualties among IDF or SLA troops in the artillery duels which began early in the morning and lasted for nearly four hours.

Beirut radio stations reported that IAF helicopter gunships also joined in the action, spraying suspected terrorist targets north of the Litani River with heavy machine gun fire.

The artillery duels began at around 7:30 a.m. when Hizbullah gunners opened fire with mortars, anti-tank weapons and machine guns at an SLA position near Almane village, in the central sector of the zone.

IDF and SLA gunners returned fire, although there were no reports of any casualties among Hizbullah's men.

Lebanese newspapers, meanwhile,

DAVID RUDGE

The newspapers carried a statement issued by Naif Hawatmeh's Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine and George Habash's Popular Front group saying the joint squad was on its way to the "occupied land" when it clashed with the IDF soldiers. Two of the gang were killed, but the remainder managed to return safely, the statement said.

On a different matter, the newspapers reported that Lebanese Army troops had become involved in trying to prevent a kidnapping earlier last week of a resident of Kneishat village, south east of Tyre.

The victim, who was reported to have relatives serving with the SLA in the security zone, was stopped and kidnapped while driving in his car with his young daughter who was left carried a Hizbullah denial on Friday that its gunners had shelled Marjayoun, inside the zone, during sim-

lar exchanges on Thursday, in the course of which a Hizbullah gunman was killed.

The papers also reported that IDF and SLA troops had conducted widespread searches around the Marjayoun area on Thursday following reports that four Palestinian terrorists had shot at an SLA position in the area of Meri village, near El Khayam.

The newspaper reports said that in the return fire, a shepherd was wounded and several of his flock of goats were killed. The gunman, however, apparently managed to make good their escape.

Another report in the Beirut press said the two Palestinians killed in the clash with IDF paratroopers north of Kantara village in the central sector of the zone on Tuesday night and early Wednesday last week had intended to carry out any attack inside Israeli territory.

by the side of the road. She raised the alarm and a Lebanese soldier chased the kidnappers and shot at them. One of them was reported to have been fatally wounded.

One of the vehicles used by the kidnappers was later found abandoned, although the searches continued for the other car, with the victim and the remaining hijackers.

In an unrelated matter, residents of Amoun village, just north of the security zone, began a sit down strike yesterday outside the Red Cross offices in Nabatieh, in protest over the continuing siege of their village by the IDF, Beirut radio station reported.

According to the reports, the villagers said that although the blockade of nearby Yochmor village had been lifted after a month, the siege of their settlement was continuing. They called on the Lebanese government and the international community to put pressure on Israel to lift the blockade, the reports said.

Report of contacts with Lebanon 'baseless'

DAVID RUDGE

THE Prime Minister's Office on Friday rejected as baseless a newspaper report that the Lebanese government had expressed its willingness to enter into detailed negotiations with Israel on the basis of the Jordanian example.

The report carried on the front page of *Yedioth Aharanot* on Friday said this was the message that had been relayed to Israel by authorized Lebanese officials and via direct contacts between representatives of the two countries in Europe.

According to the report, Lebanon had recently responded to Israeli suggestions that had been put forward by

Uri Lubrani, the government's coordinator on Lebanon, at the beginning of the year.

Yedioth's diplomatic correspondent wrote that Lebanon had proposed holding negotiations over an Israeli withdrawal from south Lebanon and normalization of relations, while deferring the signing of a peace treaty until an accord was reached with Syria.

The paper said the Lebanese had cited dire economic problems as the main reason for normalizing relations with Israel in order to reestablish ties

with the West and especially the US. The report noted that Syria had probably given its silent approval to the Lebanese initiative.

Prime Minister Rabin's media adviser, Oded Ben-Ami, told *The Jerusalem Post* last night that recent reports in the press of developments in bilateral negotiations between Israel and Lebanon were baseless.

A similar statement was also issued by the Prime Minister's Office on Friday saying there had been no contacts or discussions between Israel and Lebanon since the last meeting

between representatives of the two sides at the talks in Washington in February of this year.

Furthermore, the statement said there had been no change in Israel's positions regarding future arrangements with Lebanon and Israel was not aware of any changes in the Lebanese position, or of any Lebanese initiatives on the issue.

The statement added that Syria's position - that negotiations with Syria and Lebanon should be held in tandem - remained unchanged and there was, therefore, no basis to reports of a separate arrangement with Lebanon.



Jazz great Archie Shepp mugs for the camera Friday near the pool at Eilat's King Solomon Hotel. Shepp and his band are here for the Red Sea Jazz Festival, which opened yesterday. (Israel Sun)

Rabin refuses Matza request to visit Machpela Cave

PRIME Minister Yitzhak Rabin on Friday informed Knesset Interior Committee chairman Yehoshua Matza that the committee will not be allowed to visit the Machpela Cave in Hebron this week.

Matza had asked Rabin for permission to visit the site on Tuesday and had invited the prime minister, who also serves as interior minister, to join the group.

The committee wants to examine the security arrangements at the Machpela Cave, to determine why the site is not being opened for the High Holy Days.

In response to the rejection, Matza said Rabin did not have the last word on the matter and did not have authority to prevent the visit, which he said related to "democratic principles."

The Prime Minister's Office said

that two other groups have asked to visit the Machpela Cave: the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee and the Moslem Wakf. It is impossible to grant all requests, a spokesman said.

Matza had offered to combine the visit of his committee with that of the Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee, but Rabin rejected this suggestion.

Matza said he would nevertheless go to Hebron Tuesday with the committee, after notifying the Knesset speaker of the visit, as required.

The cabinet will discuss the matter at today's meeting. A Moslem official told Army Radio that Islamic leaders had agreed that the tomb was a mosque, and Jews could not pray there.

Adnan Hussein, head of the Islam-

ic Supreme Council that manages Moslem holy sites, said: "The Supreme Council and the Wakf council held a meeting and stated the mosque should be a mosque and it is not accepted for others to pray inside the mosque. Only for the Moslems."

Chief Rabbi Yisrael Meir Lau said in a separate Army Radio interview that he was prepared to sit down with Moslem leaders and work out a schedule for sharing the holy site.

"We should sit down together and make a list of what our holy days are and what they mean to us, and what are yours," Lau said. "I don't know much about the Islamic holy days and their details. We should at least talk about it."

Lau said he didn't know whether the Moslems would agree to such a meeting. (Jm)

Yehoshafat Harkabi dies at 72

News agencies

YEHOSHAFAT Harkabi, a former IDF intelligence chief and one of the first key figures to stress Israel's need to solve the Palestinian problem, died early Friday morning after suffering from bone cancer for several months. He was 72.

"His passing is a great loss to the nation," former president Chaim Herzog, who succeeded Harkabi as head of intelligence, told Israel Radio.

An acclaimed authority on Middle Eastern affairs and a professor of international relations at the Hebrew University, Harkabi was an adviser to several prime ministers, including Yitzhak Rabin and the late Menachem Begin.

The reserve major-general had a checkered military career. In began in 1947, when he commanded a company of students for the Palmah. In 1949 he was a member of the delegation to Rhodes that negotiated cease-

fire agreements with Jordan and Egypt. During this period, he made a secret visit to Jordan with the late Moshe Dayan.

A decade later he was forced to step down as army intelligence chief, over a mistaken military call-up broadcast over Israel Radio. He resigned from the IDF and began an academic career that focused on philosophy and history, in particular the history of the Arab-Israeli conflict.

After the Six-Day War, the hawkish academic joined other Israeli military analysts in playing down the need to negotiate with the Arabs, arguing that the war had proven time was on Israel's side. In 1969, he was the first to translate the Palestine National Covenant, which called for the destruction of Israel and the expulsion of all Jews who had come here after the state was established.

Following the Yom Kippur War, however, Harkabi changed direction and became one of the first Israelis to call for negotiating with the PLO and withdrawal from the territories. His beliefs were strengthened once the intifada began.

"Reality will force Israel to retreat from her political stand, to withdraw from the territories and to negotiate with the PLO," he said.

His writings were described as prophetic by government ministers last year, when Israel and the PLO recognized each other, and began the process that led to Palestinian autonomy in Gaza and Jericho.

Harkabi, born in Haifa, won the Israel Prize last year for his writings on the Middle East.

He will be buried in Jerusalem today at the Mount Herzl Military Cemetery.

He is survived by a wife, a son, and a daughter.

Israeli-Jordanian talks resume today

ALON PINKAS

ISRAELI and Jordanian negotiators will resume talks on finalizing a peace agreement today at the Dead Sea Spa Hotel in Jordan.

The Israeli delegation, led by Elyakim Rubinstein, will arrive this morning in Jordan and split up into 10 different committees that will cover the remaining issues impeding an agreement. The Jordanian delegation will be headed by Jordan's ambassador to the US, Faiz Tarawna.

Tourism Minister Uzi Baram is expected to join the delegation to continue cooperation talks he held last week with his Jordanian counterpart, Mohammad Edwan.

The major obstacles to be discussed are border demarcation of approximately 380 square km of disputed land in the Arava and a smaller piece of land south of Lake Kinneret, and water pumping and allocation from the Yarmouk River. A diplomatic source who will participate in the talks said the two sides will be assisted by maps as well as satellite photos to determine the contentious border issue.

The talks will continue for two days but the Israeli delegation will not spend the night in Jordan.

Peres tells Russian envoy: Status of J'lem not subject to debate

ALON PINKAS

THE political status of Jerusalem will not be subject to international debate, but consideration will be given to the interests of Christian denominations that have churches in the city, Foreign Minister Shimon Peres told Russian envoy Victor Posvaliuk on Friday.

In his meeting with Peres, Posvaliuk, reiterated Moscow's position that it should have a say in Jerusalem's status, because the Russian Or-

thodox Church has financial and religious interests in the city. Peres assured Posvaliuk, who was sent here by Russian President Boris Yeltsin, that consideration will be given to those interests, but the political status of Jerusalem is not a matter for international debate.

Peres also told the Russian envoy that Israel will ask the UN to invest heavily in Gaza and regard it as a "special project" for the international body's 50th anniversary next year.

Earlier in the day, Posvaliuk met with Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, who updated the envoy on the peace

process. Rabin said that three problems remain in implementing the Israeli-Palestinian agreement: terror, the Palestinian Authority's financial difficulties, and the fact that the Palestinian Covenant has not yet been amended.

Rabin told Posvaliuk, who had visited Damascus prior to arriving here, that there are no secret talks with Syria, and he noted that secret talks with Jordan and the Palestinians had paved the way for agreements with them.

Posvaliuk said that Russia would try and arrange such talks between Israel and Syria, but added that there are still problems on the Syrian side that are inhibiting negotiations.

Denmark supports full Israeli pullout from Golan

News agencies

DAMASCUS - Denmark's foreign minister said yesterday his country supports the principle of a complete Israeli withdrawal from the Golan Heights in exchange for full peace with Syria.

Niels Helveg Petersen made his remarks during a meeting with his Syrian counterpart, Farouk Shara.

The official Syrian Arab News Agency reported that the talks "dealt with the latest developments of the Middle East peace process."

It stressed that the ministers' views were "identical" on the necessity of a full Israeli pullout from the Golan, if peace was to be achieved.

Helveg Petersen arrived in Damascus Friday for a two-day visit.

On Friday, Syria criticized the latest move to broaden Palestinian autonomy in the territories, calling it an attempt by Israel to maintain power.

The state-run *Tishrin* newspaper said the agreement to transfer some civil authorities to the Palestinians in the self-rule area would keep "the effective authorities in the hands of Israel."

Tishrin noted that the transfer did not apply to Jerusalem, the settlements and Israeli military installations in the territories.

The paper called the move one of a "swamp of concessions" to Israel that PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat has fallen into.

It said Syria would not be dragged into such a situation nor would it accept a peace without a full Israeli withdrawal from the territories.

HILLEL KUTTLER
WASHINGTON

dent Mort Klein's inappropriate behavior during negotiations with Congress over the foreign aid bills.

AIPAC maintained that Klein pressed senators on a narrow aspect of the bill at a stage in the process when no lobbying should have taken place. Klein denied the charge and maintained that coordinated his activities with AIPAC as required.

Malcolm Hoelmeier, executive vice

chairman of the Presidents' Conference, said Friday that the purpose of Thursday's meeting had been "to make sure what are the general rules that people abide by."

The conference then issued a statement Friday that clarified, at AIPAC's request, the central role that AIPAC plays in lobbying Congress on issues related to the Israel. The statement asserted that "it is expected that members of the Conference of Presidents will engage in consultation and coordination with AIPAC, prior to engaging in lobbying efforts."

NEWS IN BRIEF

IDF officers to meet with Arab counterparts

For the second time in three months, Israel Navy officers will meet with Arab naval officers in a conference dedicated to confidence building measures (CBMs), this time in Canada.

The navy had no comment on reports from Ottawa, according to which Canada will host a conference on naval CBMs, but a diplomatic source in Jerusalem said yesterday a meeting will take place next month or in October. He would not discuss the details.

In June, navy officers participated in NATO naval maneuvers off Italy's Adriatic coast. The main theme of that exercise was crisis prevention techniques. Israeli, Omani, Kuwaiti and Bahraini naval officers jointly participated in that exercise.

Arafat welcomes dialogue with Hamas

PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat yesterday welcomed an offer from Hamas to open a dialogue, an official said.

Nabil Shaath, planning minister for the Palestinian Authority, said after their weekly meeting that Arafat had accepted Hamas's call issued in a statement on Thursday, but that the basis for talks would have to be the self-rule agreement signed with Israel a year ago.

"We are always willing to open a dialogue with our brothers... to implement agreements we have signed," Shaath quoted Arafat as saying.

Two Arabs wounded in Hebron clashes

IDF soldiers shot and wounded two Palestinians during clashes on Friday in Hebron, Palestinian sources said.

More than 400 Palestinians began throwing stones at Israeli undercover units discovered in and near the market in central Hebron, witnesses said.

The soldiers opened fire as they fled the stonethrowers, moderately wounding two Arabs. Six Palestinians were arrested, the sources said. The IDF was checking the report.

'Rabin, Peres vying for Nobel Prize'

Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and Foreign Minister Shimon Peres are reported to be engaged in a feverish cat-fight over next year's Nobel Peace Prize.

According to sources in London, Peres aides are complaining that Rabin is suggesting that he and PLO leader Yasser Arafat should share the award, thus cutting out Peres and Palestinian officials who were involved in the Oslo negotiations.

Rabin's camp, in turn, is concerned that Peres is making exclusive claims on the glory and is attempting to elbow the prime minister out of the action.

One compromise proposal - to award the prize to both men, plus their Palestinian counterparts - has already run into trouble. Arafat is regarded as the natural match for Rabin, but there is controversy over a "twin" for Peres.

Douglas Davis

We deeply regret to announce the passing of

LOTTA SCHINDLER ז"ל

The funeral will take place on Monday, Elul 21, 29.8.94 at 10:30, at the Holon Cemetery.

The bereaved

Son Yohanan and his family

The shiva will take place at Rehov Hashked 47, Kiryat Tivon

We regret to announce the passing of our beloved

THEOLEA (THEO) CAPLAN

Deeply mourned by her adoring husband and family.

Roy Caplan

Sharon Caplan

Michal, Amnon, Noa and Limor Fruchtman

Details of the funeral will be announced later.



To the Harkabi family,

We share in your deep sorrow on the passing of
Maj.-Gen. (res.) YEHOSHAFAT HARKABI

Former chief of intelligence

Lt.-Gen. Ehud Barak, the Chief of Staff

The Generals of the IDF



GIVE THEM LIFTS!

Canada's future at stake in Quebec elections

CURIOUS bunch, these Quebecois.

They tell pollsters they prefer to keep their French-speaking province in Canada, yet they also say they're going to vote for the party that promises to lead them to independence.

Decision time is just two weeks away when voters in this province of seven million people elect a new legislature Sept. 12. At stake is not just the future of Quebec, but the shape of Canada.

Ever since the British snuck up on the French in 1759 and thoroughly trounced them on the Plains of Abraham, French-speaking Quebecois have felt like second-class citizens.

Many believe their language, their culture, their very Frenchness is threatened by the sea of Anglophones that surrounds them in Canada and the United States.

The Liberals, now under the leadership of Premier Daniel Johnson, have been in power in Quebec for nearly a decade and it's natural many voters would like to toss them out.

But the only alternative is Jacques Parizeau's Parti Quebecois. Parizeau has promised that if his party forms the next government, it will hold a referendum on independence within a year.

But when, as the latest polls show, 49 percent of the voters say they will vote for the Parti Quebecois, and only 44 percent say they will vote for the Liberals, that isn't necessarily a vote for independence. That same Lege and Leger poll of 1,488 voters, with a 2.5 percent margin of error, also showed support for independence was only 40 percent.

Parizeau, beefy, short-sleeved and sweating, pumps up a political rally

in a sweltering school cafeteria saying the reason he went into politics as a young man was "to build Quebec into a country." Loud cheers.

"I will not give up until it is done!" More cheers.

"We have to be responsible for ourselves," he shouts. "We have to quit saying that what happens is not our fault, that it's somebody else's fault." Noisy agreement.

Johnson asks the simple question: How much will it cost? Can an independent Quebec survive outside the Canadian womb?

The Fraser Institute, a conservative Canadian think tank, says it will cost a lot. The share of the national debt

JEFFREY ULBRICH
MONTREAL

Quebec would assume on separation would amount to \$150.6 billion (\$108.4 billion US), the institute said. That comes to about \$20,888 (\$15,000 US) per person and would make a Quebec one of the most indebted countries in the world, ranking right down there with Madagascar and Jamaica.

Quebec also receives about \$12 billion (\$8.6 billion US) more from the federal government than the \$31 billion (\$22.3 billion US) it pays to Ottawa in taxes, income it would lose.

Nonsense, huffs Parizeau, a graduate of the London School of Economics.

"Not only are there no costs to sovereignty, there are extraordinary economic advantages," he told inquiring reporters as he toured a scrap metal plant. "We'll create jobs so much easier once sovereignty is done. You don't think of getting out of the waste caused by two governments stepping each on the other is an advantage."

He claimed the savings would be in the range of \$3 billion (\$2.2 billion US). Just eliminating the duplication of the federal and provincial departments of revenue and communications would save \$500 million (\$360 million US), he said.

Johnson, also an economist, scoffed at Parizeau's mathematics. "I wonder where Mr. Parizeau bought the widget or gizmo that he uses to compute these numbers," Johnson said at a news conference.

"They are pure fantasy, pure fiction."

The five-point Parti Quebecois lead in the polls could translate into about 86 of the 125 seats in the legislature, a whopping majority. That anomaly occurs because most Anglophone voters, who generally oppose independence and the PQ, are concentrated in a few districts around Montreal and in the Gaspé Peninsula.

But even many francophones who support a change of government oppose breaking up Canada.

"Times are changing," said Liberal candidate Jose Simon. "It used to be if you were a Quebecois, you had to be for sovereignty. Now, people are not afraid to stand up and say they are federalists."

The last time the PQ won power, in 1976, it also held a referendum. It lost that 1980 vote 60-40 percent. (AP)

Khmer Rouge unwilling to free hostages

PHNOM PENH (Reuters) — Negotiations to free three Western hostages held by Khmer Rouge guerrillas have collapsed amid reports of renewed fighting around the rebels' southern Cambodia stronghold, a senior government official said yesterday.

"We haven't had any fresh news for two or three days because our contact group cannot get in," Secretary of State for Information Khieu Kanharith said. He did not elaborate. Khmer Rouge radio said yesterday that government forces had launched a major attack against the rebel stronghold, days before the August 30 deadline set by the guerrillas for the hostage drama to be resolved.

"On August 25, 1994, the two heads began a large scale campaign at the Phnom Vor (Vine Mountain) area," rebel radio said in a report monitored in Phnom Penh. "Two-heads" is a Khmer Rouge term for the Cambodian government.

The Khmer Rouge broadcast warned that the Phnom Penh government, the United States and other countries would be responsible if the captives were killed.

It said the Cambodian government had planned to use "whatever means necessary to eliminate people and resistance in the Phnom Vor area even if this could lead to the deaths of the three foreigners."

"The two heads and communist yuon (Vietnam) and its allies must take complete responsibility for all consequences stemming from this campaign now and for the future," the broadcast said.

Mark Slater, 28, a Briton; Jean-Michel Braquet, 27, of France; and David Wilson, 29, from Australia, were taken hostage on July 26 after a train ambush in which 13 people were killed.

They are believed to be held at a Khmer Rouge stronghold known as Vine Mountain, about 150 km south of Phnom Penh.

Ambassadors from the three host-guesting embassies were briefed for more than one hour today by a senior official from the Cambodian foreign ministry.

"It's just one of our regular contacts. We have no comment," said Australian ambassador Tony Kevina. The Cambodian official said despite the absence of any official contact between the Khmer Rouge and government negotiators for three days the hostages were still alive.

Asked if there was a military operation in progress to rescue the hostages, the official, Marina Pok, told reporters: "The Cambodian government is doing all the best effort to take them out safely."

She confirmed that government military units had surrounded the Khmer Rouge position at Vine Mountain.

"We want to guarantee security in the area and protect the safety of the people. We want to remove the root of the trouble in the area," Defense Minister Te Banh told Reuters when asked about reports of the fighting.

Local army commanders in Kam-pot have said military action in the province is aimed at securing roads, bridges, rail links and hamlets vulnerable to rebel attacks and was not a response to the hostage situation.

Banh said the government was still trying to secure the release of the hostages. (AP)

CARE residence stoned in Goma

GOMA (AP) — Attackers stoned a house where six foreign aid officials live and fired one shot at the building, raising new security concerns for expatriate workers aiding Rwandan refugees, a UN spokesman said yesterday.

"None of the workers was injured, said UN High Commissioner for Refugees spokesman Ray Wilkinson. He said the attack Friday night was the first on the living quarters of any of the estimated 800 foreign aid workers in the Goma area, and "the attack subsided before any harm was done."

"About 850,000 Rwandans are in camps around Goma, mostly ethnic Hutus who fled, fearing retribution for the 500,000 Tutsis killed in three months of civil war."

Victorious Tutsi leaders have said it is safe for Hutus to return, and there is no evidence of widespread reprisal killings.

But the refugees have remained in the squalid and increasingly violent camps along the Rwandan border and have been vented their frustrations on aid workers.

The attack on the CARE home, a tin-roofed bungalow on the bank of Lake Kivu, occurred late on Friday, said chief CARE official Marc Gagnon. CARE contacted the Zairian government, which sent a platoon of troops. No arrests were made.

"This attack has raised loss of concern and I have asked by staff to take precaution," said Gagnon, a Canadian.

Gagnon said he was unaware of who the attackers were. But in Goma, Zairians and even Zairian soldiers routinely attack homes of the natives

for money.

Murders in the teeming camps occur daily, and aid workers have been forced to flee angry mobs. The nationalities of the six foreigners in the attack on a home rented by CARE International were not immediately known.

"We have these spontaneous lynchings," said Ruth Marshall, a UNHCR spokeswoman in Geneva. "It's becoming impossible."

In Goma, Hutu thugs and militiamen hacked and stoned to death a woman refugee in Naginda camp, accusing her of being a spy for Tutsis, Wilkinson said Friday.

"There was a mini-witch hunt going on for alleged Tutsi spies in the camps," Wilkinson said.

He said in two separate incidents, people were accused of being Tutsi spies and were beaten up by Hutu refugees. UNHCR officials who were nearby managed to rescue those victims, Wilkinson said.

Elsewhere, aid workers fixing water systems in camps around Bukavu were forced to flee after rumors circulated that they were poisoning the refugees.

"What is alarming is there seems to be a pattern of incidents in Goma and here that threatens aid workers," said Kris Janowski, UNHCR spokesman in Bukavu.

Nerves are also fraying at other camps in and around Goma, said Wilkinson. "In just about every camp now there are daily murders," he said. "Tension is rising in all the camps. Aid workers are very concerned and fear getting engulfed in violence."



A Rwandan orphan in military uniform wears a pierced helmet at a camp for former Rwandan government soldiers. Children were used by the Hutu Army as orderlies. (AP)

Cubans keep fleeing despite bad weather

New American restrictions on travel and gifts to Cuba go into effect

ED McCULLOUGH

HAVANA

UNDETERRED by bad weather and US warnings that they can't enter the United States, many Cubans vowed to leave this economically depressed island nation the first chance they get.

"We're going," said Carlos Fonseca, a 27-year-old artisan who said he and two friends were just waiting for the weather to clear.

"My house is empty. I sold the TV, the refrigerator, the stove and a mattress," he said, to buy the raft he intends to paddle to Florida.

Fonseca and hundreds of others planned to leave even though the Clinton administration says it will no longer grant automatic asylum to Cubans who reach US shores.

To relieve pressure on his own government, Castro stopped trying to prohibit illegal immigration. Those refugees picked up at sea were taken to the US naval base at Guantanamo, at the southeast end of Cuba.

New US restrictions on travel and gifts to Cuba took effect Friday. US residents no longer can send money to relatives in Cuba, charter flights

were canceled with few exceptions and contents of humanitarian and gift parcels were restricted.

The Clinton administration hopes its carrot-and-stick approach will slow the human tide and pressure Castro into democratic reforms. But many here weren't getting the message.

Some 378 rafters were picked up at sea yesterday. The number was down from 1,670 picked up by the US Coast Guard Friday, partly due to bad weather. In Havana, people hauled their rafts up on beaches while dark storm clouds loomed overhead and waves battered the shore.

Cuban state radio said waves in the Florida Straits were 1.5 meters high. It urged those planning to make the journey "on homemade crafts" not to do so — at least until the weather clears.

An uncertain future didn't deter many Cubans determined to leave.

Rescue at sea by the US Coast Guard? "We'll say, 'no thanks' unless we're in real trouble," said Osvaldo Martinez, 28, a typesetter. "Our raft is built to get to Florida." Indefinite detention at Guantanamo? "How long can they keep every one there?" asked Fonseca. "Once I'm here I'm not coming back here. I'm risking my life to leave here now."

Fonseca had vowed to leave seven years ago when he was jailed 18 months on a charge of trying to illegally leave Cuba. He says he was on an island looking for turtle eggs to sell to tourists when he was picked up.

Nothing he has heard discourages him from what he is about to do. "America is an enormous country," he said. "If every Cuban wanted to go, there's room. I personally would like to see Canada. It's very cold, but they have even fewer people

so maybe there would be room for me."

Some have the curious conviction that US entry is their right — not a privilege — because their families already are there. They are certain the country they consider a paradise will let them in, sooner or later, even if they end up going to jail first.

Luis Lazaro, a 28-year-old electrician, used wood from his bed frame to build his raft. "My (US) immigrant visa was approved three years ago," he said. "How long am I supposed to wait?"

Perhaps years. The process is so backlogged that immigrant visas approved in November 1984 are being handed out only now, according to the US Interests Section here. Lazaro figures he has waited long enough.

A dissident writer who had been on a 23-day hunger strike joined the exodus yesterday. Norberto Fuentes flew to Mexico after Nobel prize-winning author Gabriel Garcia Marquez asked President Fidel Castro to let him leave, officials said. (AP)

US to pitch for \$25b. in China business

BEIJING (Reuters) — US Commerce Secretary Ron Brown flew into China for a landmark trade mission yesterday, pledging to profit from a detente in US-Sino relations and pitch for \$25 billion in new business.

Brown, the first US cabinet member to visit China since President Bill Clinton severed the controversial link between trade and human rights, was accompanied by 24 US corporate leaders, all eager to burrow into the booming Chinese economy.

Beijing is barreling ahead with a 13 percent growth rate, opening up a huge profit potential in sectors from transport to energy to financial services.

"We will be advocating \$25 billion in deals and I expect several billion to come to fruition while we're on the ground," Brown said on his way to China.

It was the first time Brown had put a dollar figure on a key goal of his eight-day trip — boosting US exports and thereby helping to propel the economic recovery back home.

With the Cold War over, Clinton has made international economics a cornerstone of his foreign policy. "We're dealing with a new world. We are trying to provide leadership in this whole area of commercial diplo-

macy," Brown said. "Our national security is inextricably tied to our economic security."

The businessmen accompanying Brown, selling products ranging from hydro-electric plants to car parts, are anxious to make inroads into the world's fastest growing economy.

"This is not a ceremonial visit. This is hard work," Brown said. Brown also wants to cement a new era in US-Sino ties that stretches well beyond the commercial dimension.

Exactly three months ago, President Clinton opened a new chapter in US foreign policy by renewing China's low tariff benefits, known as MFN, despite persistent concerns about human rights in Beijing.

So-called Most Favored Nation status is granted to most US trading partners but since 1989, when Chinese authorities crushed pro-democracy protests in Tiananmen Square, China has faced an annual inquisition over its future tariff status.

"Clearly, the MFN decision opened up doors in China that simply were not open before," Brown said. "This (trip) is not an esoteric exercise."

On the day of Brown's arrival, China boasted that it leads the US in protecting human rights.

Carlos lawyer denies client planned to kidnap Klaus Barbie

PARIS (Reuters) — French lawyer Jacques Verges yesterday denied a newspaper report that his client "Carlos the Jackal" considered kidnapping Nazi war criminal Klaus Barbie from his French prison a decade ago with his help.

Le Parisien said Carlos hoped Barbie, defended by Verges during his 1987 trial, would disclose embarrassing information about relations between western governments and former Nazis.

It said East German secret services strongly opposed the plan and it was dropped.

Barbie, a former Nazi Gestapo chief in Lyon, was handed over to France by Bolivia in 1983. He was given a life sentence in 1987 for crimes against humanity and died in prison in 1991.

The Venezuelan-born Carlos appointed Verges as his chief lawyer after he was spirited from Sudan to a French prison two weeks ago to be probed over a 1982 car-bomb attack in Paris.

Since then, the French press has

published a stream of reports based on files of the former East German secret police Stasi alleging that Verges had been a member of the Carlos' group in the early 1980s.

Verges ridiculed the alleged kidnapping plot, saying no one would believe that he could help abduct a client of his.

"When I defend a client, I do it with full devotion, whoever he is," he told LCI television.

Verges dismissed the Stasi files as lacking credibility and said allegations against him were aimed at forcing him to drop Carlos' defense for fear that he could make embarrassing disclosures during the trial.

Le Parisien published excerpts of a letter in English purportedly sent to Carlos in 1983 by his deputy Johannes Weimrich and found in Stasi files. "The Barbie affair is very interesting," the letter said.

The newspaper said Carlos wanted Verges, mentioned under the codenames "Herzog" and "Gabriel", to provide information on how to kidnap his client from prison.

Judge denies blood for O.J. defense

LOS ANGELES (AP) — In a setback for the defense, a judge told O.J. Simpson's prosecutors they don't have to share crucial blood samples with the defense even though they were "less than exemplary" in handling the evidence.

Superior Court Judge Lance Ito said prosecutors showed it is "reasonably necessary" for them to do multiple genetic tests before giving any of the evidence to the defense.

He also rejected the defense's contention the prosecution acted in bad faith. Defense attorneys were angered that the police crime lab withheld some blood samples and charged prosecutors were trying to "burn up" evidence through excessive testing.

"What was revealed to the court in the course of this hearing was a picture of confusion, miscommunication and non-communication between the prosecuting attorneys and LAPD," the judge wrote.

"Such conduct, while less than exemplary, does not rise to the level of bad faith or misconduct."

Simpson, 47, is charged with the June 12 knife slayings of his ex-wife Nicole Brown Simpson and her friend Ronald Goldman. He has pleaded innocent.

A college and professional football star who went on to become a television sports commentator, ad pitcher and movie star, Simpson is perhaps the most famous American to be charged with murder in recent years. The US public has been riveted by the case.

The sparring over evidence samples offered a glimpse of the full-blown battle over DNA which is expected to consume weeks of court time during the Simpson trial, sched-

uled to start with jury selection on Sept. 19.

In another development Friday, Superior Court Judge Stephen Czulger refused a defense request to sanction prosecutors over a grand jury probe of Al "A.C." Cowlings, Simpson's friend and driver in a highway chase the night Simpson surrendered to police.

Though the panel is officially investigating Cowlings, District Attorney Gil Garcetti has said evidence gathered by the grand jury could be

used against others, presumably including Simpson.

Czulger, who was chosen to hear the issue because he knows more about grand jury law than Ito, denied a request from a news media lawyer to open the proceeding. Simpson attended the hearing.

Also Friday, CNN reported that Simpson made a call on his cellular phone to his friend Paula Barbieri at 10:04 p.m. the night of the killings. Citing unidentified sources close to the case, CNN said Barbieri didn't answer.

Come and visit Israel's second holiest city:

Hebron

TUESDAY, AUGUST 30 (ELUL 23)

Departure: 8 a.m. sharp, Independence Park, Agron St. (next to Rehavia Cab)

Itinerary:

8:00 a.m. Departure from Agron St. (Independence Park)

Arrival in Hebron. Beit Hadassah. This structure was built by the Hadassah Women's Organization at the beginning of the century as a medical clinic. Coffee will be served at the apartment of Rabbi Moshe Bleicher, Head of the Shavei Hebron Yeshiva.

Visit at the studio of Shmuel Mushnik, artist.

Museum in Beit Hadassah, established to perpetuate the memory of Jews who died in the 1929 riots in Hebron.

Tour of Beit Romano, which was originally the home of S'de Hamed and was built more than a 100 years ago.

Tour in Admot Yishai. The burial place of Yishai and Ruth, the forebears of King David.

Avraham Avinu neighborhood. This is the restored Jewish quarter in Hebron. The Settlers' Restaurant. This is the temporary home of the Yeshiva; observation point for the Cave of the Patriarchs.

Lunch at Yeshiva Shavei Hebron

1:00 p.m. Departure for Jerusalem

Please bring a hat. Cold drinks will be served during the entire trip as needed.

Fee: Adults - NIS60. Children (under 12) - NIS40.

For information and reservations, call 02-920111, 02-962323 (NS).

Limited number of seats - reserve now!

English guide, fully protected and escorted. A/C bus.

Sponsored by American Friends of Shavei Hebron.

For other tours call: "Pathways of Patriarchs" 02-920111



Ministry of Absorption



Ministry of Education and Culture

The Ministry of Absorption and the Ministry of Education and Culture announce the opening of

Hebrew Language ulpan

on Sunday, August 28, 1994 (21 Elul 5754).

New immigrants with a referral from the Ministry of Absorption should apply directly to their assigned ulpan.

New immigrants who have not yet registered and do not have a referral from the Ministry of Absorption should apply to the nearest branch of the Ministry of Absorption to arrange for registration and a referral.

New immigrants who have attended an ulpan in the past without completing the course of studies are also invited to register at an ulpan.

All new immigrants are advised to take advantage of their right to study Hebrew at an ulpan and improve their command of the language, which will help ease their absorption in the country, at work and in society.

With best wishes for a Shana Tova

Algeria shuts Moroccan border

RABAT (Reuters) — Algeria shut its border with Morocco yesterday. Rabat imposed entry visas for visiting Algerians after the killing of two foreigners in a Moroccan hotel lobby.

In a statement carried by the official news agency APS, the Algerian government said the border was being closed temporarily and in future Moroccans would also need visas to visit Algeria.

More than a million Algerians visit the kingdom annually but few Moroccans go to Algeria where more than 4,000 people have been killed in over two years of conflict mainly between the army-backed authorities and Muslim fundamentalists.

The crisis between the two countries, members of the Arab Maghreb Union, blew up after Moroccan police arrested two gunmen in the central city of Fez on Thursday night.

They are suspected of belonging to a mainly Algerian gang which attacked a luxury hotel in Marrakech on Wednesday. Two Spanish tourists were killed when the gangsters sprayed the lobby with sub-machine-gun fire before fleeing with cash.

The Moroccan Interior Ministry in a statement on the arrests did not give the men's nationalities nor link them to Algerian Muslim activists.

But it said they had been arrested "in possession of war weapons and accompanying material".

Algeria has frequently said in reporting the deaths of activists killed by its security forces that "weapons of war and other material", such as maps, binoculars and military uniforms, were found by their bodies.

It has also accused the Islamists of carrying out armed robberies to get funds to fight the authorities.

Rabat's statement said, without further explanation, that the two men detained "were to attack banks, members of the security forces and peaceful people."

Last June 16, a military court in Rabat sentenced eight Muslim militants, two of them Algerians, to jail terms up to 20 years when convicted of gun-running to Muslim activists in Algeria. It was the first case of its kind in Morocco.

Earlier this month three unidentified gunmen tried to hijack an armored vehicle in Casablanca which was carrying funds to a bank but they were foiled by the guards and escaped.

Algerian state radio monitored by the BBC said the arrested men were French nationals of Algerian origin resident in Lyons.

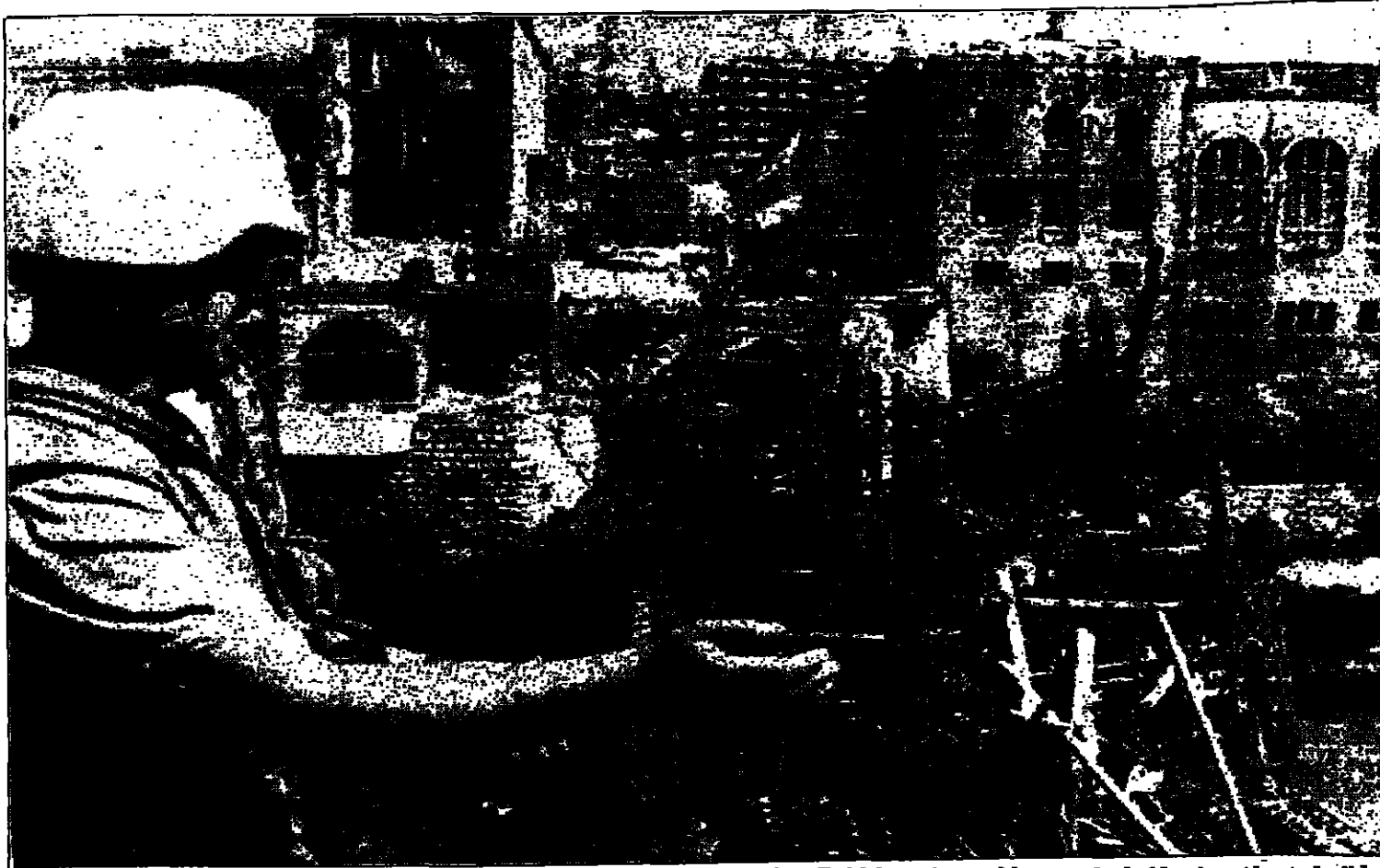
Morocco's decision to demand an entry visa for all visitors of Algerian nationality or origin, and to order those already in the country to report immediately to the police, brought strong protests from Algeria.

An Algerian Foreign Ministry spokesman quoted by APS said "Algeria has learned with astonishment and repugnance reports that Algerian nationals resident in Morocco are subjected to persecutions and excesses on the part of Moroccan security agents."

The Algerian government said however there would be no retaliation and "the rights of Moroccan nationals regularly established in Algeria will be respected."

In Algiers, newspapers said that closing the border had been contemplated in the past to halt gun-running, drug trafficking and smuggling. A foreign ministry official said in May the traffic cost the state more than \$400 million a year.

Tourism Ministry figures show 1,237,946 Algerians visited Morocco last year, down from 1.7 million the year before.



A British UN soldier overviews the ruins of Tito's Bridge in Bosnia yesterday. British engineers blew up the bridge in order to build a better one. (Reuters)

Bosnian Serbs likely to reject international peace plan

DUSAN STOJANOVIC

PALE

GRIPPED by an us-against-the-world mentality, Bosnia's Serbs went to the polls yesterday intent on giving a resounding "no" to an international peace plan.

As voters trooped dutifully to the ballot boxes on a chilly, gray day, it was impossible to find anyone who would even consider voting otherwise.

"Everyone will vote no," said Mico Stancic, a man in his mid-70s, as he cast his ballot in Pale, the Serb stronghold just east of Sarajevo. "There is no way that we could accept this suicidal plan."

The two-day referendum, which runs through today, was widely considered irrelevant by an outside world weary of Bosnian Serb intransigence. Even neighboring Serbia branded it a crude attempt by Bosnian Serb leaders to legitimize their rejection of the plan.

The United States has warned that continued rejection could prompt the lifting of an arms embargo on the Muslim-led government, which has been outgunned by Bosnia's minority Serbs in 28 months of war.

That would mean more bloodshed in a conflict that already has left 200,000 people dead or missing. But Radovan Karadzic, president of the self-proclaimed Serb state within Bosnia, remained defiant as he voted yesterday.

"Our people will have no dilemma," he said. "They'll reject the plan. We will never accept the dictate, and we will never accept a state that is not viable."

The peace plan, proposed by the United States, Russia, Britain, France and Germany, would reduce Serb holdings to 49 percent of Bosnia from the current 70 percent. A rival federation of Bosnian Muslims and Croats, who have accepted the plan, would get the remaining 51 percent.

But Bosnian Serb leaders say the division would leave them with an unviable state and prevent them from uniting with Serbia, the largest of the two remaining republics in Yugoslavia. The quest for such a union was the reason they started the war in

an Croats to "sit down at a negotiating table and divide Bosnia in two."

"The Muslim state will cease to exist," he said. As for the possible lifting of the arms embargo, Karadzic said, "They may get arms, but by then they would not have enough people to use them."

The referendum marks the second time Bosnia's Serbs have been asked to vote on a peace plan. In May 1993, Bosnian Serb officials said 96 percent of 1.2 million voters rejected a plan that would have divided Bosnia into 10 cantons.

Results of this weekend's voting are expected early next week, but there seemed little doubt about the outcome. Even pressure from neighboring Serbia has had little effect.

Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic cut off supplies to his former proxies in Bosnia early this month after Bosnian Serb leaders denounced the plan.

Milosevic is regarded as the chief instigator of the war in Bosnia, and supplies sent by Serbia have been crucial to Bosnian Serb dominance of the conflict. (AP)

'Drug muggers' victimize thousands in Colombia

BOGOTA (AP) — All Juan Carlos Cuervo was planning to do when he stepped out on a recent night was grab a beer.

He was found three days later, wandering in a zombie-like state and robbed of his money — the victim of a bizarre crime wave in which thieves use a powerful drug as a weapon.

Thousands of people have been robbed or raped in the past two decades after being slipped the drug scopolamine, known as "burundanga" on the street, prompting a US State Department warning to travelers to Colombia.

"The drug renders the person disoriented and powerless to resist orders," the State Department says in a travel advisory.

Although the plant that burundanga comes from is found in many parts of the world, including the Andes Mountains, its use as a weapon is uniquely Colombian.

Attacks have been reported in Spain and Panama, but even in those incidents it's suspected Colombians were involved.

Criminals often administer the drug, a highly soluble white powder with no taste or smell, by slipping it into a drink or blowing it into the face of an unsuspecting victim.

Among the plants burundanga comes from is "el borrachero," or "the intoxicator," a tree with white, trumpet-shaped flowers that grows wild in Bogota. The drug is easily extracted by using alcohol or sulphuric acid.

Scopolamine has been used in medicine, often as a sedative, in the United States and other countries for years. It's also used to treat Parkinson's disease and in patches that prevent motion sickness.

But too much of the drug can cause disorientation, memory loss, hallucinations and convulsion. In large quantities, its effects can last for days.

Cuervo says one of his last memories of that recent Friday was having a drink in a bar. "A moment later, I was in a taxi going I don't know where," the 28-year-old biologist recalled.

The following Monday morning, a neighbor spotted Cuervo wandering in a daze near his home in filthy clothes, and pulled him off the street.

Two days later, Cuervo was still recovering from the experience at a clinic, hooked up to an IV drip of antibiotics.

Cuervo has no idea what happened to him during his last weekend.

On Monday, yet another victim of burundanga emerged: a man who was mutilated while under the drug's spell.

Marco Tulio Velez, told hospital officials that two women angry at him for flirting with them gave him chewing gum laced with the drug. When he came to hours later, he discovered his penis had been severed.

The women remain at large.

Dr. Camilo Uribe, director of the toxicology clinic where Cuervo was being treated, said people under the influence of high amounts of burundanga have emptied their bank accounts for thieves.

"It's much like hypnosis, but a chemical version," said Uribe, whose clinic treated 364 burundanga victims last year.

Many people in Bogota, an Andean city of almost 7 million people, know someone who has been a victim.

Police consider the drug a major problem. Prosecuting cases is difficult because victims rarely remember their assailants.

The plant has been used in Indian religious rites in South America for centuries. Its hallucinogenic effects symbolize power. In rural Colombia, some people grow the tree outside their home for protection, to let potential aggressors know they have the power to bend minds.

Health bill facing many hurdles

JOANNE KENEN

WASHINGTON

WHEN senators come back next month from their abbreviated summer recess, they will be looking at a slimmed-down health care proposals far narrower in scope than the ambitious scheme unveiled by the White House last year.

Nobody on Capitol Hill is still talking about legislation that guarantees coverage for every American. The best reform advocates can hope for is a compromise bill that puts America on the path to universal coverage.

And even that isn't a sure thing. Numerous factors — partisan politics, expensive lobbying, a skittish public and technical difficulties intrinsic to such a huge reform — coalesced to repeatedly delay the health bill this year and make comprehensive reform difficult.

"If we do not pass health care this session we will not have lost it this week — we will have lost it (over the) last year," said Louisiana Democratic Senator John Breaux.

Most Americans are insured and fear losing out in an unfamiliar new system, said Brookings Institution analyst Joshua Wiener.

"People wanted radical reform — but without changing anything," he said.

The uninsured, spread through different segments of US society, do not speak with one voice. "There's no such thing as the American Association of the Uninsured," said Wiener.

"We concentrated on trying to sell 15 percent of the American people who don't have health insurance — while the Republicans concentrated on the 85 percent (who are insured) and told them that if we did this we were going to take something away from them," said Breaux, a moderate at the center of a group making a final push for a compromise.

But if liberal backers of universal coverage see the compromise as the lowest common denominator rather than the highest, they might bolt.

In addition to philosophical objections to reforms that still leave millions of people uninsured, they have practical doubts about partial reforms that, when states have experimented with them, have ended up raising insurance costs and leaving more people uninsured.

"We can't do something that does more harm than good," said Pennsylvania Democrat Harris Wofford, who has reluctantly accepted that universal coverage is unrealistic this year.

If a compromise is seen as too regulatory or expensive, conservative Republicans are likely to try to block it.

"Forget it. These (pro-reform) guys have got to accept the fact that for two weeks this has been a dead body they've been dragging around," said Texas Republican Phil Gramm, who has objected to all but the most minimal reform proposals.

The House also plans on taking up health care in September. In theory, the leadership is still aiming for a universal coverage bill. But it does not have enough votes to pass and Speaker Thomas Foley this week left the door wide open to more limited measures.

Wiener traces the problems back to 1992, when candidate Clinton embraced managed competition and global budgets.

Those concepts were foreign to ordinary Americans and even experts were not certain how the ideas, untested on a national scale, would work. In addition, that approach took months to draft, giving opponents plenty of time to stir up doubts.

Interest groups have spent tens of millions of dollars to fiercely fight Clinton's plan as well as modified versions of his proposal. (Reuters)

Pilots blamed for Korea Air crash

SEOUL (AP) — The Transportation Ministry yesterday blamed a plane crash on a pilot and copilot who fought over control of a plane as it skidded down a runway.

Miraculously, all 160 people aboard the Korea Air jetliner, which slammed into a safety barricade near the runway and burst into flames, escaped "moments" before the plane exploded.

In an interim report, the ministry said the pilot, Barry Edward Woods of Canada, should not have attempted the landing.

Woods landed the Airbus A300 on the resort island of Cheju in the midst of a typhoon Aug. 10.

The ministry also said the copilot, Chung Chan-kyu, a South Korean, was wrong to try to wrest control of the plane from Woods and abort the landing.

The two were heard on a voice recording quarreling about whether to land or not only seconds before the plane crashed.

"No! No! No! What are you doing? Don't! Wait, man... You're gonna kill us," Woods shouted to the copilot as the plane lurched down the runway. About 13 seconds later, the plane crashed.

The ministry blamed the argument on a lack of communication. Both Woods and Chung had been booked without detention, and were

believed to be in Seoul. They have been barred from leaving the country.

The interim report concluded that the plane approached the runway too fast and was too far along the runway to have landed safely.

Cheju Island police said prosecutors will begin investigating police charges filed against the pilot and copilot for violating South Korea's aviation laws.

The ministry report was based on preliminary analysis of the voice and flight data recorder conducted in France. The final report is expected late September.

The ministry said the plane was coming in too fast, at 340 kph, instead of the normal 270 kph.

The cockpit crew also miscalculated the distance left on the runway, it said. The plane touched down 1.75 km into the runway, which did not leave enough room for the plane to land, it said.

Woods and Chung pointed the finger at each other during police questioning.

Woods, 52, told investigators that Chung, 36, tried to abort the landing while Woods was engaging the brakes to land, thus making the plane skid.

Chung said he did so to reduce speed because the plane was going too fast and was too far along the runway.

North Korea admits to anti-Kim leaflets

SEOUL (AP) — North Korea acknowledged yesterday that someone distributed anti-Kim Jong Il leaflets in its capital city, and said the propaganda play was the work of South Korean spies.

Fears of a power struggle in communist North Korea rose after South Korea's national news agency Yonhap reported that anti-Kim leaflets were found in the exclusive diplomatic community in the capital city of Pyongyang last week.

"Leaflets scattered in the embassy quarters of Pyongyang is a smear campaign launched by (South Korea)," North Korea's official Korea Central News Agency said. It accused South Korea's main spy agency of printing and distributing the leaflets.

The leaflets are the first public sign of opposition to Kim Jong Il, the oldest son and heir-designate of the late Kim Il Sung.

Shortly after the first reports of the fliers, South Korean President Kim Young-sam warned the people to prepare for "any contingency" in North Korea.

But the chief of South Korea's main spy agency played down the importance of the leaflets Friday, saying Kim will have little difficulty in succeeding.

Kim Jong Il was believed to have taken over after his father's death July 8, but rumors of a power struggle surfaced because of delays in the official announcement of his succession.

Kim also has not been seen in public since the July 20 funeral, when he looked ill and had lost weight. Kim was rumored to be too sick to take full command of the government.

North Korea did not disclose the contents of the leaflets. It was unknown how they were spread, and whether they were seen before being rounded up.

Barbie deemed sacrilegious

KUWAIT (AP) — A senior Muslim cleric has declared Barbie dolls sacrilegious and is urging Kuwaitis not to buy them for their children.

The independent Al-Qabas daily said yesterday the cleric, Khaled al-Mathkour, made the declaration in response to a question about the dolls during a popular television program.

The newspaper quoted al-Mathkour as saying Muslims cannot buy Barbies because they look like grown-up women and have nothing to do with childhood.

He is the head of a committee formed by the emir, Sheikh Jaber al-Ahmed al-Sabah, to implement

Sharia, or Islamic law, in Kuwait.

The newspaper quoted al-Mathkour as saying the dolls were shaped like statues that are forbidden by Islam.

The emir has recently turned down a parliamentary request to amend the constitution and make Islam the sole source of legislation.

He said the committee will see to it that full implementation of Sharia was carried out through "careful and deep" studies.

Muslim fundamentalists hold 19 of the 50 seats in the parliament that was reinstated in 1992 after being suspended for six years.

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Software for Bible scholars

JUDY SIEGEL-ITZKOVICH

THE Jerusalem software company that put the Bible and Rashi commentaries on computer in Hebrew and English has now taught the program to read the text aloud. The program, called *The Old Testament for Macintosh*, is aimed at the massive Christian market around the world who want to read, hear, and analyze the Bible with ease.

The two-year-old company, Torah Educational Software (TES), has upgraded its Jewish-oriented Bible Scholar program for this market. In the process, it claims to be the first in the world to have produced a commercial application of a new Apple technology. This innovation uses built-in algorithms instead of precious computer memory to make a voice accompaniment of the entire text. It reads the text in a pleasant male or female electronic voice, which can be set at a faster or slower pace, sounding out a single word, phrase or sentence at a time in either language.

Aimed primarily at the non-Jewish computer user, especially the fundamentalist Christian with a deep attachment to the Bible, the program is called *Old Testament* so that customers are not misled into thinking they are getting the Christian Bible (including the New Testament) as well. And the subsidiary that produces it has been named Bible Land Software, as Torah Educational Software would have little meaning for the non-Jewish audience.

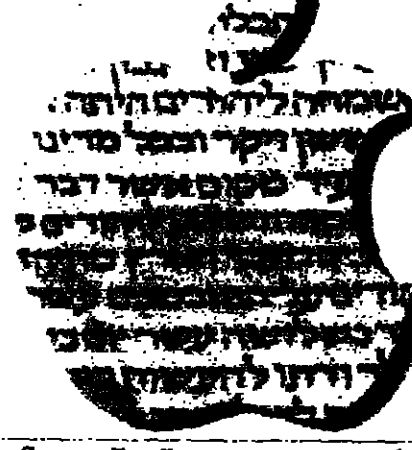
TES president Rabbi Emanuel Fishman says he consulted the Bostoner Rebbe, Rabbi Levi Yitzhak Horowitz, on the sticky question of whether the term "Old Testament" (which might imply the company recognizes a "new" one as well) could be used. "We explained that if we used 'Bible,' Christians would expect their New Testament as well," Rabbi Horowitz approved the unusual nomenclature.

Software developer Jeff Miller brought back the new English-language Apple reading mode, which "figures out" the correct pronunciation of the word from the context of the accompanying words. He then "taught" the program to speak in Sephardic-accented Hebrew as well.

The *Macintosh* program, costing \$159, is available in the "world's" equivalent in Israel, would also be a welcome novelty to Christians (and Jews) who want to follow biblical texts in Hebrew, but also for the visually impaired or even the blind, who can hear the text instead of reading it.

The only other Bible text on

The Old Testament



for Macintosh

This new program is aimed at Christian Bible lovers.

computer, called *Mac Bible* and produced by a US company, costs \$149 - but it lacks the reading mode, concordances, graphic illustrations, commentaries, hyper-texting, footnotes ability and referencing available on the Jerusalem Macintosh program.

Fishman notes that the market for the product includes the "home education market" in the US - nearly 500,000 fundamentalist Christian families who refuse to send their children to school because it teaches history and science with an "anti-Creationism" bias.

Another potentially popular product for the non-Jewish, as well as Jewish, families with little Jewish background, is the English-language *Family Bible Rhymes*. Available on CD-ROM, it is a full-color animation with music of 70 schemes from the Five Books of Moses. Missing words in the rhymes can be answered either by the child or by the program itself. The 150-megabyte disc is a major upgrade of TES's earlier product, *Torah Rhymes and Riddles*, which as based on the ArtScroll Publications book of that title and covered only the Book of Genesis. The new \$59 product was independently done by TES staffers and is breathtaking. At the recent PC Expo in New York, in which 1,000 new products were introduced, this CD-ROM was cited as one of the "Products to Watch in 1995."

TES hasn't forgotten the Jewish market in its latest development work. It has become the world distributor of the famed Bar-Ilan University Judaic Library, including its Responsa Project. The university began over a decade ago to put a large Judaic library on a database, and to collect 10,000 halachic questions and their answers (responsa) by the greatest Jewish sages.

Researchers who wanted such information called or wrote Bar-Ilan for the written material. Scholars were also able to use the computers on the Ramat Gan campus. But the university found the demand so great that it could no longer handle all the queries. Instead, TES was licensed to produce a single CD-ROM that contains an entire Judaica library worth over \$5,000 if purchased in book form, as well as the available responsa.

"Some of the texts are so rare that they cannot be purchased," says Fishman. They are all on the disc. In addition, one doesn't have to know Hebrew to operate the program; the commands can be made in English.

The Bar-Ilan Judaic Library is available in four sections: the basic library with the Torah and Rashi, Mishna, midrashim, Talmud Bavli, Maimonides's *Mishne Torah* and rabbinical biographies for \$149; a second library with Onkelos, Ramban, Ralbag, Radak and other commentaries for \$79; and third with the Yerushalmi Talmud, Yoreh Deah, Sifri, Shulchan Aruch and other works for \$199; and finally, there is the entire responsa for \$395.

The entire package can be purchased for \$896. In fact, the whole package is automatically on every CD-ROM purchased, but parts are electronically "hidden" unless the customer paid for them. "Customers who bought the basic library but want more merely have to call our 800 toll-free number in the US (1-800-925-6833) or our Jerusalem number (02-511861) and give us their order and credit card number.

According to the code number on their CD-ROM, we supply a corresponding 16-digit code that opens up the hidden sections to those who purchase it," Fishman explains.

'Edutainment' for lazy students

JUDY SIEGEL-ITZKOVICH

RON Lander understands the need for motivating children to reach their potential. As a bored third grader in Scotland, he was barely an average pupil. But when his parents promised him a bicycle if he excelled, he zoomed to the top of the class within weeks.

A decade later as an engineering student at the University of Glasgow, he saw no point to the grueling routine. However, when he learned that the top three students were exempt from having to prepare written reports, he quickly became one of them and graduated with honors.

Now Lander, who retired at 42 from his successful electronics security business and established an educational software firm, is trying to motivate Israeli youngsters to improve their mathematics and reading ability. The Lander Gold Series - four "edutainment" software programs for children as young as three up to adults - have been produced in Hebrew with Bug Multisystems of Tel Aviv.

The Gold Series last month received a 1994 Parents and Good Toy Guide award, a stamp of approval given in Britain by panels of children and parents from toy libraries around the country. The computer programs were praised for "enhancing and supporting school activities and skills - numeracy, spelling, matching, memory, cognitive and listening abilities."

Lander, a 52-year-old visiting professor at his alma mater's business school in the field of small and medium-sized enterprises, "never had time" to do a doctorate, the energetic millionaire said in a recent interview in Jerusalem. "But I would still like to get around to it."

A "typical renegade" in school, Lander says, "I didn't like to be told what to do; even then I was a typical entrepreneur." His father, a Jew born in Budapest and brought up in Vienna, fled to Scotland when World War II broke out; he later started his own business in security systems, which became eighth largest in the country. Son Ron, after university, tried to work with his father but two years later decided they couldn't happily work together. Lander worked independently as a financial consultant, established a brokerage firm and bought out his father's business. He made it the second largest in Britain. Then, still in his 40s, he retired.

EDUCATIONAL software began as a hobby. The Scottish Council for Educational Technology - a nonprofit organization for developing educational software - approached him for investment funds. But he became so interested in the subject that in 1986, he established his own company for



Lander: Any child can be motivated to improve. I know this from experience. (Great Scott)

high-quality computer programs for young people. Lander Software markets some 80 products around the world in a variety of languages. Now Bug Multisystems has translated the four-program Gold Series into Hebrew; it is in the process of receiving Education Ministry approval. Bug has also received the rights for selling it in Arabic throughout the Middle East.

The four programs, each selling for NIS 99 in Bug and other computer shops, as well as toy and book stores, are indeed impressive. All have a parent-teacher section that allows an adult to customize the program according to the age and abilities of the young user.

"If your child is seven and knows the multiplication table until five times five, you can adapt the program so that lessons and questions deal only with that level. Later, you can expand it to more difficult levels," Lander explains.

The number of questions, level of difficulty, time limits for tests and number of attempts to answer are all variables that can be programmed in, by the parent or teacher. The diskettes keep a record of dozens of pupils by their name, with their exact scores in each topic. They also use a variety of background music whose tempo and style changes according to the mood of the task at hand.

Count and Add (*Sfor Ve'haber* in Hebrew) is a basic math pro-

gram aimed at three- to six-year-olds and consists of five separate games. They take the user from very simple counting of fish, teddy bears or butterflies and progress to adding two numbers up to a total of 20. With vivid animation, it uses a cartoon character named Shades to count with the child, who is encouraged to answer a question before a spider on one side of the screen reaches a fly on the other.

The second program is *Hoorary For Henrietta* (*Heyday Henrietta*), aimed at children aged five to 14. It helps them add, subtract, multiply and divide quickly and accurately. Each math function has eight skill levels built around the theme of Henrietta, Hopeless Henry and John the Parrot. It has been praised by software experts for its high-quality graphics, excellent sound and interface that is easy for even younger children to use.

Henrietta's Book of Spells (*Ha'otzar Hakesumot Shel Henrietta*) combines full 256-color graphics and digitized sound to improve spelling, vocabulary and language skills in both Hebrew and English. The game revolves around helping Henrietta, the heroine, defeat two villains - Cedric the Skeleton and Morgana, thus allowing the user to restore Henry the Frog to his previous self as a handsome prince. It includes vocabulary of several thousand words; children and parents can add to these lists many new words

learned in the classroom. Software critics have declared the original version, which includes French, German, Spanish, Italian and American English, "one of the best pieces of UK children's software."

Spellbound (*Ot Lahit*) is aimed at children from age seven through adulthood. The most advanced of them all, it requires a hard disk, CD-ROM drive, a minimum of 520K free RAM, and, preferably, a Soundblaster card for audio effects.

The aim of this arcade-like program is to defeat a nasty character named Professor Grimes by finding five keys for a hidden treasure. This is done by collecting letters to make up the words that appear on an image of a computer screen at the beginning of each level. But it isn't easy. To get the letters, the user must shoot the various creatures that bar your way through each level. Even after completing a level and getting a key, you have to copy the word and then spell it correctly before going on. The user or a parent/teacher can set difficulty levels from "rookie" to "ace" (the latter can challenge any quick-thinking adult).

Lander, whose wife and two sons are not Jewish but who says his two visits to Israel have for him been a very special journey of rediscovering personal identity, would like children here to benefit from his software. "Any child can be motivated to do better. I know this from personal experience."

Lotus 1-2-3: The A-B-C of spreadsheets

ON LINE
DANIEL BAUM

THE name Lotus 1-2-3 is almost synonymous with the word spreadsheet. It was one of the first spreadsheets available, and it has been through more versions and revisions than a Beethoven manuscript.

The latest one is called release 4.01 for Windows. There are also a couple of DOS versions still on sale, of varying complexity. Version 4.01 includes Hebrew support, while the same version abroad is simply called version 4. There is a version 5 on the way, though it's still not known when it will be released with Hebrew support.

1-2-3 comes in a smartly designed box, on several disks. Two slim manuals are included with the package - a user guide and a manual for the DataLens drivers, which allows the user to access external database files via Lotus 1-2-3. The relative paucity of documentation is compensated for by the comprehensiveness of the help system.

Indeed, the manual presents itself purely as an operating manual, and refers the reader to the help system for details. The program is quick and simple to install and takes up some 15 MB after a full installation.

When the program is loaded, the user is presented with a fairly simple screen - a standard menu bar across the top and below that the edit line, in which one edits text and which shows the currently selected range of cells. It also contains a button which brings up a list of all the currently defined named ranges, and allows the user to choose them. Below this are the SmartIcons, which is what most people call a toolbar. These icons, which are common to all Lotus programs, offer shortcuts to a wide variety of commands, as well as letting the user load other Lotus applications. There are several sets of these icons, which the user can scroll through to find the desired one. All the sets are configurable, and one can also create one's own.

I find huge numbers of icons rather inscrutable - it is almost impossible to remember what they all do. However, in Lotus 1-2-3, and all the other Lotus applications, the user can get a description of the icon's purpose by clicking on the second mouse button.

Even so, I often found an icon that did something useful, and then had great difficulty finding it again when I wanted to use it. Under the icons is the worksheet itself, or rather the worksheets, as 1-2-3 is a 3D spreadsheet. Each file may consist of more than one worksheet, which one switches between using notebook-like tabs. Each worksheet has its own name, and each cell range, as well as the usual row and column, is prefixed by the name of the worksheet on which it appears.

Using the worksheets shows just how much thought has gone into the 1-2-3 user interface - pressing the second mouse button brings up a "quick menu" containing commands immediately relevant to whatever one is doing. Any range may be named, thereby avoiding the clumsy column:row notation; cells may be moved and copied using the mouse; column width can automatically be adjusted so that all data fit and any dialogue box needing a range entered allows the user to choose it by dragging the mouse.

At the bottom of the screen is the "active status bar." Although touted by Lotus as something revolutionary, all they have really done is move some of the menus traditionally found at the top of the screen to the bottom. In the status bar, the user can change such things as the font, style and size of text, and the sets of SmartIcons currently selected.

Lotus 1-2-3 has been around for a very long time indeed - it's probably the oldest PC program still being produced, except DOS

itself, and it's very slick. Powerful features such as database processing and version control, which allow one to use the same worksheet with different sets of data to see what would happen under various circumstances, are well thought out and easy to use.

The program has dozens of mathematical functions, a powerful macro language for automation of sequences of commands and a full set of drawing tools. The overall impression is that a little effort gets the user a long way. An entire worksheet can, for instance be given a predefined "look" simply by defining it and choosing a style from a menu.

The obvious comparison is, of course, with Microsoft Excel, which has better Hebrew support, as the worksheet can be reversed so the A column is on the right.

Apart from this, the two programs are evenly matched feature for feature. In general it is difficult to distinguish two competing programs purely on the basis of the features they offer. The software market is mature enough for there to be a set of features that all programs have.

That said, any judgment on such an intangible level is bound to be very subjective. The differences are mainly in presentation and ease of use, and in this field Lotus 1-2-3 beats Microsoft Excel version 4 hands down. Excel 4 is the latest version in Hebrew, although there is a version 5 which is supposed to be coming out soon locally.

1-2-3's main advantage is worksheet tabs, although Excel 5 has these too, but the whole program gives the impression of being tightly designed and well planned for maximum ease of use. It also has an excellent on-line tutorial. To sum up, although Excel and 1-2-3 have basically the same features, Lotus 1-2-3 is better designed - one does not have to wade through a ton of literature and search through several menus to find something.

Josephus's report was accurate

NEW WORLDS
POST SCIENCE REPORTER

JOSEPHUS FLAVIUS's abilities as an accurate "reporter" have been confirmed by Weizmann Institute researchers, who had been puzzled about his references to "agriculture" at Masada over 2,000 years ago. The Jewish historian apparently got his story right.

A chemical and isotopic analysis of preserved wood recently dug up at the site was carried out by Dr. Dan Yakir and Prof. Joel Gat of the Weizmann Institute's department of environmental sciences and energy research, and by Prof. Arie Issar of Ben-Gurion University. Their study will be published in the next issue of the *US Journal Geochimica et Cosmochimica Acta*.

Josephus, who recounted the siege of the Masada fortress after Jerusalem was conquered in 70 CE, provided at least two accounts relating to the climate around Masada. In the first, he told of Joseph, brother of King Herod the Great, who hid himself at the site and was saved from dying of thirst by a rainstorm. In the second, Josephus reports that Herod, who fortified the site, reserved the top of the hill for agriculture "for the preservation of those committed to the fortress."

These references puzzled researchers, who argued that the extremely dry climate on the eastern edge of the Judean desert could not support agriculture.

The late archaeologist Prof. Yigael Yadin, who excavated the site 30 years ago and experienced a

rare winter flood there, suggested that the water of such occasional floods was stored in cisterns and could have made farming possible.

Issar, however, suggested that the climate in the region two millennia ago could have been less arid than today. He and the Weizmann scientists went about testing this hypothesis. They dug out samples of tamarisk wood from which the Roman ramparts were made; the wood was believed local, because tamarisks are characteristic of the Masada region. Pine wood, which was used as timber in higher elevations or the coastal plain, was completely absent from the ramparts.

They analyzed the extremely well preserved wood and found that the ancient cellulose had significantly lower carbon 13 and oxygen 18 levels than today's wood. This means the humidity was higher and salinity was lower than it is today. "The reliability of the famous historian has thus far remained unshaken," the researchers concluded.

BEZEK UNIVERSITY? Bezek has proposed an innovative, in-house curriculum giving graduates a bachelor's degree of technology in telecommunications. The proposal, presented before the board of directors, is in its final stages of preparation before

being presented to the Council of Higher Education's planning and budgeting committee.

Bezek director-general Yitzhak Kaul says graduates will improve the quality of the company's manpower and increase their motivation, helping Bezek to compete with private enterprise. It would also save Bezek money otherwise spent on sending employees to institutes of higher learning.

BULLETPROOF HOUSES

In an increasingly violent America, bullet-proof siding to thwart drive-by shootings may become as much a status symbol as a lush, green lawn. According to wire reports, Scott Shaheen and Alan Sharp of Bullet Resistant Systems Ltd. in Texas say they never expected such a demand for their new fiberglass wallboard siding, which they claim is strong enough to withstand a bullet.

It has been a hit not only among urban residents fearful of crime, but also with rural residents wanting protection from stray bullets fired by hunters and people in the tornado belt who fear damage from flying debris. Californians fearful of earthquakes believe it could reinforce their property against damage. And in the Midwest, one woman living next to a golf course asked for protection from errant golf balls.

The panels, which look like aluminum siding and cost around \$4,000 per home, protect walls, doors, roof and garage; in addition, sliding panels cover the windows at night.

Heart patients get a dose of leech-made anti-clotting drug

HEALTH SCAN
POST HEALTH REPORTER

A genetically engineered substance that is identical to chemicals produced by leeches will soon be tested on heart patients here.

The leech secretes the substance into its victim to stop its blood clotting and thus keep it flowing.

The substance will be administered over the next 18 months at Sheba Hospital in Tel Hashomer, Ichilov Hospital in Tel Aviv, Rambam and Carmel hospitals in Haifa, Soroka Hospital in Beer-sheva, Beilinson Hospital in Petah Tikva, and Assaf Harofeh Hospital in Tzrifin.

These hospitals are participating in an international series of

clinical trials which also involve medical facilities in the US, Canada and England.

They are being coordinated by Boston's Harvard University and supervised by the US Food and Drug Administration. Dr. Hanoch Hod of Sheba and Dr. Gabi Barabash of Ichilov will organize local efforts. Other local hospitals are expected to join the research.

The US organizers of the trials asked Sheba researchers to take part. The hospital's participation has been approved by the Health Ministry's Helsinki committee on human experimentation.

Preliminary findings from the US show that the genetically engineered anti-clotting drug im-

proves the condition of patients who have suffered heart attacks or chest pains due to angina pectoris.

FIRM SHARES PEACE PIPE WITH ANTI-SMOKING LOBBY

IDB Leasing has voluntarily thrown out part of its advertising campaign because it includes tobacco pipes and therefore could legitimize smoking. Yehayahu Ze'evi, the company's managing director, received a letter from Amos Hausner, head of the Israel Society for the Pre-

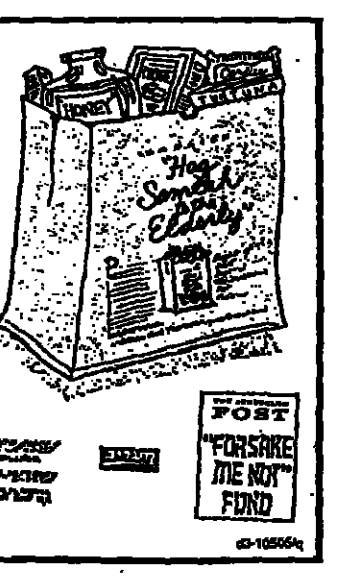
vention of Smoking, about advertising posters showing a pipe.

The posters showing the tobacco pipes, which were supposed to be hung in banks and on billboards around the country, will be replaced, Hausner said.

SHERLOCK HOLMES OF GARBAGE

University of Arizona scientists don't do their research in an ivory tower - they are probing people's eating habits and dental hygiene by examining residents' garbage. According to the *New Scientist*, the "Garbage Project" sends researchers to sift through garbage cans outside private homes in Tucson six days a week.

If you can't get to a Supersol store, you can still help make the holiday festive for the needy elderly by participating in the "Hag Sameah to the Elderly" campaign. Send your contributions (NIS 13 per bag) directly to The Jerusalem Post Forsake Me Not Fund, and we will purchase the bags for you. Checks should be sent to the Forsake Me Not Fund, P.O.B. 81, 91000 Jerusalem.



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"Get Gaza out of Tel Aviv"

OPPOSITION parties may feel it is their sacred duty to attack the government at every opportunity, and the Friday murder of two construction workers must have presented an irresistible temptation to the opposition parties to do so. But to blame specific government policies for terrorist acts by Arabs against Jews is, at best, just plain silly.

This silliness is not unique to the current opposition parties. When Labor was in opposition, it used to attribute terrorist killings to the Likud government's "hard line" policies. Now the Likud and Tsomet are accusing Labor of causing murder by tolerating PLO inaction on terrorism and releasing terrorists from prison. But the killings are no more connected to the government's current policies than they are to the Hebron massacre, which is what Hamas claims.

Arab terrorism against Jews precedes the Oslo and Cairo agreements, the peace process, the 1967 war, the State of Israel, and the Zionist movement. It is an endemic phenomenon, and as long as there are Jews in the region, it will not stop—at least not in the foreseeable future.

If the government's agreement to release prisoners should be condemned, it is not because freeing convicted terrorists after a few years in prison means to potential killers that they can murder with impunity—as the Tsomet Party has charged. It is because these prisoners are usually highly trained, experienced killers whose return to the battlefield adds invaluable manpower to the terrorist cadres.

But on this point the Likud has little reason for self-righteous criticism. It shared power with Labor when a national unity government approved the most unforgivable blunder Israel has ever made in its war against terrorism: the exchange of 1,150 terrorists for three Israeli prisoners in the "Fibril deal." At the time, only Benjamin Netanyahu—to his great credit—opposed this self-inflicted disaster, which brought on the intifada.

If the government can be blamed for anything in connection with Friday's murders, it is for failing to fulfill its promise to "get Gaza out of Tel Aviv." Labor's election pledge to separate Gaza from Israel is what made many vote for the party. But having forfeited control of Gaza, the government is trapped between the desire to bar Gaza laborers from Green Line Israel and the fear that without the income these workers bring home the Strip will become a cauldron of unbearable poverty and discontent. It was in response to urgent pleas of the Palestinian Authority that Israel almost doubled the number of work permits for Gaza laborers.

The only realistic solution is to implement Labor's campaign promise and stop the daily importation of Gaza workers altogether. To prevent this from harming the Israeli economy, the government will have to allow many more foreign laborers to work in Israel, something it should have done long ago. Both Labor and Likud, with consistent irrationality, have found it difficult to reconcile importing laborers from abroad with the existence of hundreds of thousands of Israeli unemployed. Why hiring Arabs who stab their employers is preferable to employing peaceful Thai workers is beyond the comprehension of plain mortals. But that is precisely what all Israeli governments since 1967 have done.

What makes the policy appear even more ludicrous is the government's insistence—based on the early Zionist ideal of "Jewish labor"—that if construction jobs are vacated by Arabs they should be filled by Israeli Jews. What has happened is the exact opposite. Because Gaza Arabs are still employed in this field, Jews refuse to accept jobs in it. And if they do, they soon leave. In the last few months 600 Jewish workers quit the building trades, despite handsome remuneration, because they feared getting killed by Arab fellow workers. Under the circumstances, the fear is hardly irrational.

The conclusion should be obvious: if the government truly wants to increase the number of Jews working on building sites it should promptly declare a closure on Gaza, whose economic problems should anyway be solved internally, and import thousands of foreign laborers. It is too late for such a step to make the kind of major political difference it could have made seven years ago, but it would help contribute to the personal safety of all Israelis.



Despised lovers of Zion

THE recent arrival of 57 potential immigrants from Manipur and Mizoram in northeast India and applications for visas from another 60 has sparked a hysterical reaction among public officials and the media.

The Indians, who have been living as Jews for a generation, believe they are Bnei Menashe—descendants of the lost biblical tribe of Manasseh—and will be undergoing formal conversion to Judaism in Israel.

Fears have been expressed that once the visas are issued, the floodgates will be opened to some 300 million more such people claiming to be Israelites and seeking entry into the country under the Law of Return.

Such people from Third World countries, it has been suggested, are undesirable since they are likely to be "economic refugees" using Israel as a pathway to the affluent Western world.

It is a pity that our leaders can voice such opinions when a visit to Manipur and Mizoram—such as I made in 1990 and 1992—and an examination of the lifestyle followed by the Bnei Menashe would quickly dispel their fears.

Mizoram has a total population of 700,000, while Manipur has close to two million inhabitants. While the Chin-Kuki-Mizo (Chikimi for short) ethnic groups from whom the Bnei Menashe have sprung constitute the majority of the population in Mizoram, they represent only 20 percent of the people of Manipur. A further 500,000 of them live across the border in Burma's Chin State.

These states are simply too tiny to contain the supposed 300 million it is feared will want to come to Israel if the next contingent of the Bnei Menashe is allowed to enter. That figure is equivalent to a third of the total population of all India.

The majority of the Chikimi population are devout Christians. The 3,000 to 5,000 Bnei Menashe are distinguished from the rest by the practice of Judaism and their rejection of Jesus. Since 1974, Bnei Menashe families have sent their children far away from home, to Jewish schools run by ORT in Bombay, where they have been able to study Judaism as well as learning a trade.

Even among Christian Chikimi,

MYER SAMRA

love for Israel is widespread. When official relations between India and Israel were cool, the Chikimi took special interest in Israel's progress.

One magistrate described to me how he and a colleague had sought to volunteer to fight for Israel during the 1967 Six Day War; a headmaster of a Christian school in Mizoram told me of a survey he conducted among children in kindergarten, who expressed admiration for Israel more than any other

1979. He has provided them with spiritual guidance, and assisted members of the community to come to Israel for conversion, checking out each individual's commitment to Judaism before helping them to come here.

Unfortunately, because they do not come as fully recognized Jews, the Bnei Menashe have not had many of the benefits given to immigrants from other countries. Many have been obliged to live in settlements beyond the Green Line, because they could not find work and accommodation in religious kibbutzim inside Israel's pre-1967 borders.

Far from being economic refugees, dependent on the state, in Israel the Bnei Menashe have proved righteous converts, living here as Orthodox Jews. Many have studied in yeshivot while also working for their livelihood in jobs beneath their level of education and previous experience.

The Chikimi have the second highest literacy rate in India: many have achieved positions of status and power in government administration, the diplomatic corps and education. Several distinguished and wealthy individuals in Manipur belong to the Jewish congregations there.

Before the arrival of the latest "group," around 90 Bnei Menashe young adults had settled in Israel, the first of them coming in 1989. The men have willingly served in the army, one joining the Golan Brigade. A number of the women have married Orthodox Israelis—native born or North American immigrants. The most recent group is different from previous ones, in that it included six married couples and their children, now living and working in Kiryat Arba.

The next group, whose visas have been jeopardized by hysterical and inaccurate publicity, was to include the parents, brothers and sisters of people already settled as loyal and productive citizens of Israel. To thwart their entry at this stage would be to go against the principle of family reunion. Such a step would be inhumane; more so since the relatives who wish to come are already living as Jews, and seek nothing but to continue to do so in the Jewish State.

A needless, hysterical outcry could thwart the aliya of a small group of cultured, productive Jews

The writer teaches in Sydney University's Department of Anthropology.

Caribbean crises

THE ability of dictators to defy logic and gain international coverage for their inanities is a constant wonder of the modern world. Take Fidel Castro. Having continued to beggar Cuba with his nonsensical policies, even after the snapping shut of the Soviet purse, he waits until Havana riots in the streets, then attempts to dump his disaffected people on the coasts of Florida. One would expect at this point to hear a few statements of "mea culpa" and "let's rethink" when he broadcasts to Cubans. No such logic.

"US measures compel illegal departures," Castro tells Cubans on their television screens. America's refusal to add another human tide of his emigrants to the million already living in the United States is "an absurd and illogical response." In a two-and-a-half hour speech Thursday Castro emphasized that the exodus of thousands of Cubans on boats, flimsy rafts, and even inner tubes is the direct result of US policy to limit legal immigration from Cuba.

Here we have a tyrant of the left spouting the same nonsense as Raoul Cedras, the tyrant of the right who rules Haiti. If great minds think alike, it is apparently also true that fools seldom differ. There is something truly ludicrous—comic were it not so tragic—of these great waves of sea craft laden with desperate humanity pouring out of Haiti and Cuba, both countries with the potential to be paradise islands, but for the criminal stupidity of their two leaders who are supposedly at opposites ends of the political spectrum. And who is to blame? Why, the evil, perverse, inhuman United States, of course. Cedras is reported to be ecstatic that Haiti has fallen off the front pages for the moment, thanks to the Cuban crisis.

What has really happened is that two tin-pot dictators, who would never be heard of were their countries in the middle of the Pacific, have managed to equate their opinions and status with those of the American president by choosing to defy their powerful neighbor. Nonetheless, the crises are real enough for President Bill Clinton, with the US media breathing down his neck for "decisions," rather than focusing on the colossal vote of desperate feet paddling out of Havana and Port au Prince.

The irony is that the flight of the Haitians and Cubans demonstrates how weak Castro and Cedras have become; yet for some inexplicable reason many US media pundits have been saying the crises show how weak Clinton is. The Caribbean disasters are certainly a nightmare for Washington. Yet short of mounting consecutive invasions of its troublesome neighbors—a political impossibility—the administration's actions have been cool and decisive. Haiti is under severe sanctions, and Castro is clearly rattled that his latest attempt to dump threats to his regime on Florida have backfired.

What is really worthy of severe criticism is the attitude of America's so-called friendly neighbors. Virtually none of them in the Caribbean and Central American will help absorb the flood of refugees from the dictatorships, despite a plea to 13 states to help spread the burden. If all states had said "yes," the policies of Cedras and Castro would have been deflated and devoid of significance. What is galling is that were it not for the proximity of the United States, most of those countries now refusing to help would have long ago become appalling little Cubas and Haitis themselves.

MYER SAMRA

country. And when I entered a dry cleaning shop, the girl behind the counter was reading a translation of Eli Cohen's biography.

Like the Bnei Menashe, some of those who follow Christianity also believe they are descended from Israelites, and a number of sects preach that they belong to either the tribe of Manasseh or Ephraim. The Ephraimites are content to remain where they are, believing the Chikimi lands will be the safest place on earth as the war of Armageddon plays itself out. Indeed, I have been asked by people of this persuasion to tell all the citizens of Israel they are welcome to take refuge with them until the Messiah arrives.

THE BNEI MENASHE have been worshipping and living as Jews for a generation. Had they been living in the West, they would have been able to undergo formal conversion to Judaism long ago. This is not possible in India, where no rabbis are to be found. Consequently to complete their integration into the Jewish people, they are obliged to come to Israel.

Rabbi Eliahu Avihayil of Amishav, a group working on behalf of the Lost Tribes, has been in contact with the Bnei Menashe since

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

TIRED OF ARAFAT
Sir, — According to your report of August 2, Arafat claims that "for us, Jerusalem is one issue, one cause. It is an issue of holy, sacred places, for Christians and Muslims."

I for one am tired of Arafat claiming to speak for "Christians." He does not speak for me, and I am a Christian. I can speak for myself, thank you.

I believe the Bible states that David purchased the threshing floor for 600 pieces of gold (Chronicles 1:21). This settles the issue.

There will be a day of reckoning and I will stand with those to whom God gave an "everlasting Covenant." The threshing floor legally belonged, belongs and will forever belong to King David and his descendants.

And thank you for printing the truth. I cannot read it in any other newspaper.

CHARLENE ROBERTS
Thomastown, Georgia.

TEACHING ENGLISH
Sir, — The Education Ministry plan to teach some subjects in English in a dozen schools was welcome news and it is regrettable that it has been put off. The number of those who brought a major foreign language with them to Israel is dwindling. In recent years, more and more high-school and even university graduates find they cannot do their job properly because their knowledge of English is scant. They need English not just for social climbing, but for keeping abreast of technical developments and for professional, business and diplomatic communication. Education Minister Amnon Rubinstein mentions (August 11) that 30 percent fail to pass the English matriculation test at the low three-point level, and he certainly knows something should be done.

Teaching English at a more advanced level in no more than 12 high schools is a drop in the ocean, but it is definitely worth trying in the field. As to the claim that the Hebrew language is in danger, nothing could be further from the truth. All you have to do is listen to our kids chattering in Hebrew, their native tongue. It is our national language and it will not be erased from their memories by a few additional English classes that may eventually prove essential for their advancement and well-being.

N. RABIN
Tel Aviv.

WHY REJOICE?
Sir, — Why are we Israelis happy to hear that Syria may be willing to receive a group of American Jewish visitors? Since when do American Jews represent Israel? Have we indeed abdicated?

EHUD ISRAEL
Jerusalem.

HAITI
Sir, — The Jewish people owe a debt of gratitude to the troubled state of Haiti. It was one of the very few countries which opened its gates to refugees from Nazi persecution. In the case of Haiti, they came from Germany, Austria, Romania and Poland.

MORDECHAI NOY
Ramat Gan.

FRITZI MASSARY
Sir, — I am engaged in writing biography of Fritzi Massary, Berlin's great operetta prima donna in the 1920s and 1930s. I would appreciate hearing from anyone with information to share.

ROBERT WENNERSTEN
3353 Troy Drive,
Los Angeles, CA 90068

POSTSCRIPTS

WHO IS the worst boss in America? There are plenty of nominees so far for the King of Incompetence, the Potentate of Poor Management, the Worst Boss of 1994. The search for office ineptitude and lack of leadership was mounted by Jim Miller, an expert on managerial techniques.

The search is far from over, but already Miller can spin horror stories. "My worst boss was a descendant of Attila the Hun — from the mean side of the family," wrote one disgruntled underling.

Another entrant detailed how his boss once delivered a motivational speech to his sales staff: "It's 9:30, you (expletives). You're still in here loitering on your butts, drinking coffee. What are ya, crippled?"

There is the boss whose idol was FBI head J. Edgar Hoover. This leader went crazy when a female employee informed him she would need time off to have a baby. When she hurried back to work, he "told me what a rotten mother I was," she wrote.

Not to mention the boss whose "personality consisted of three moods: Angry, angrier and angriest."

Last year, Miller's champion was a man who demanded that workers taking time for a funeral return with an obituary.

MARATHON RACES routinely pay a runner to set the early pace. These "rabbits" lead the pack for a few kilometers before dropping out.

Paul Pilkington was the rabbit for this year's Los Angeles Marathon. The 35-year-old teacher from Utah went as far as he was required to, but then looked over his shoulder and noticed he was a good two minutes ahead of anyone else. He kept on running — and won, beating 19,000 other runners.

The favorite to win, Italian Luca Barzagli, didn't even realize the rabbit remained in the race and was surprised that he was not mobbed when he crossed the line 39 seconds later.

Pilkington won \$15,000 and a Mercedes — plus, of course, his rabbit fee of \$3,000. Jonathan Schoenfeld

HUMAN ENDEAVOR has come to this: we are about to get a better understanding of stress by learning about bad smells in the Paris metro.

Teams of "sniffers" from the city's olfactology laboratory, the Institute of Nuclear Safety and Protection, will study how smells vary according to passenger use, the time of day, type of trains and ventilation.

The sniffers' work should one day help make subway users more comfortable by helping eliminate or mask odors triggering stress.

"We are entering the era of olfactory communication," said Jean-Paul Mercier, an odor expert who supplies industrial "perfumes" to eliminate smells in factories, offices, transport and underground parking lots.

"You create olfactory ambience to reduce stress and increase the comfort of your workers," he said.

Odors in the workplace can change moods "just like the soft music that is played when your airplane takes off," he said.

While most commuters might think body odor and mechanical smells would be the most prevalent metro smells, the single largest source is in fact the rotting of bacteria trapped inside concrete at the time the system was built.

A FIREMAN asked a Los Angeles judge to overturn a department ban on sexually explicit magazines, saying he has a right to read Playboy at his "home away from home."

"This is not a case of pimps or posters on the wall," said a lawyer for fireman Steven Johnson. "A firefighter has a right to read."

Johnson, 49, works at a remote, all-male station in the Mojave Desert near Edwards Air Force Base.

The two-year-old ban on sexually explicit magazines was part of a sexual harassment doctrine that applies to dormitories, restaurants and lockers.

Patricia Kaye Vaughan, a county Fire Department employee who helped draft the policy, testified that the county feared the magazines would create an atmosphere of women as sex objects and create a hostile environment.

She said the ban was limited to material "designed to elicit sexual arousal of the viewer."

Johnson's lawyer asked her to look at copies of Rolling Stone, Vanity Fair and Sports Illustrated magazines displaying nudity, and Vaughan agreed they too would be banned under department policy.

She thumbed through a Sports Illustrated swimsuit issue and said: "I don't believe he would be allowed to bring this into the fire station."

Tammy Bruce of the National Organization for Women said the department policy is "a model for the nation."

"We've got to have a day where men can get through their workday without looking at nude pictures of women," she said. "If you can't get through a day without porn, something's wrong."

The writer is a former ombudsman of The Washington Post.

Who's news

RICHARD HARWOOD

CARLIN Romano of the Philadelphia Inquirer begins an essay on selecting the news with a quotation from the sainted Walter Lippmann: "All the reporters in the world working at all the hours of the day could not witness all the happenings in the world." Nor all the happenings in a city, county, state or nation.

We "witness," as a matter of fact, very few of the events and people we choose to write about — a murder in the city, a typhoon in Tonga, a failed coup in Comoros. We do not lurk behind curtains in the Oval Office or sit in cabinet meetings. Nevertheless, space must be filled, and presses must roll.

"What does the press cover?" Romano asks. "The off-the-cuff answers come quickly. What it feels like covering. What sells papers. What the competition is covering. What it can get into the paper by 10 p.m. What it has always covered... Facts. Government. What's important."

Beyond these traditions and robotic habits we apply "values" to determine what and who is news, to determine our agendas, to determine what people "ought" to read and think about. We get a lot of help in making these determinations from other agenda setters: presidents, run-of-the-mill politicians, pressure groups of every description, lawyers, corporations and a "spin" industry that constantly messes with our minds.

I ran a little test last week on The Washington Post, attempting to learn something about its news values and agenda for 1994. What's important? What's not? Who and what makes news, and why?

The Post's computers tell us we have published more items this year about people and events in Britain than about any other nation on earth — China, Japan, Russia and Germany included.

For whatever reason, I'm unable to recall any great happenings in Britain this year, with the possible exception of the annual golf tournament. They've got the same queen. They have not gone to war with France and have not acquired any new colonies in Asia, Africa or the Middle East. No one has run a two-minute mile.

FRANCE AND the French appear almost as often in the American press as Britain and Britons, although once again I have no recollection of any historic happenings on that side of the channel if this calendar year.

Nevertheless, it is true that vast numbers of the international corps of correspondents are still found in Paris and London. It is likely coincidental that these are highly congenial places to live.

AIDS is a terrible disease that has been at the top of our public health agenda for years. I find more references to AIDS in The Post this year (and over the past eight years) than to cancer, stroke, and heart disease combined, diseases which kill 55 times more people each year than AIDS.

In the early days of the AIDS epidemic, the disease was novel, its victims were pitiable and newsworthy.

Large-scale public education campaigns were launched with the help of celebrities from all walks of life. Books were written. Magazine cover stories and newspaper series proliferated. Condoms enjoyed a great boom in sales and in popularity with both sexes — also with schoolchildren. Lobbies were organized. Demonstrations were staged. The funding of AIDS research soared.

But so little has changed during these years that the 10th annual International Conference on AIDS voted recently to stop holding annual meetings because "new ideas were few and far between. The meetings will now be held every two years."

Will the lack of AIDS progress affect our coverage? We can only wait and see, but I doubt it. Some subjects stick to the agenda like Crazy Glue. Meanwhile yesterday's popular killers — cancer, heart disease et al. — continue to cull the population, especially the old folks, as efficiently as ever.

Who, in terms of The Post's attention, is at the center of the universe? That's easy. The president of the United States, whoever he is. He has no earthly rivals or unearthly rivals for that matter. Bill Clinton, as of August 16, was a subject in 5,445 stories vs. 1,197 for the "Supreme Being." His wife, Hillary (700), gets third place.

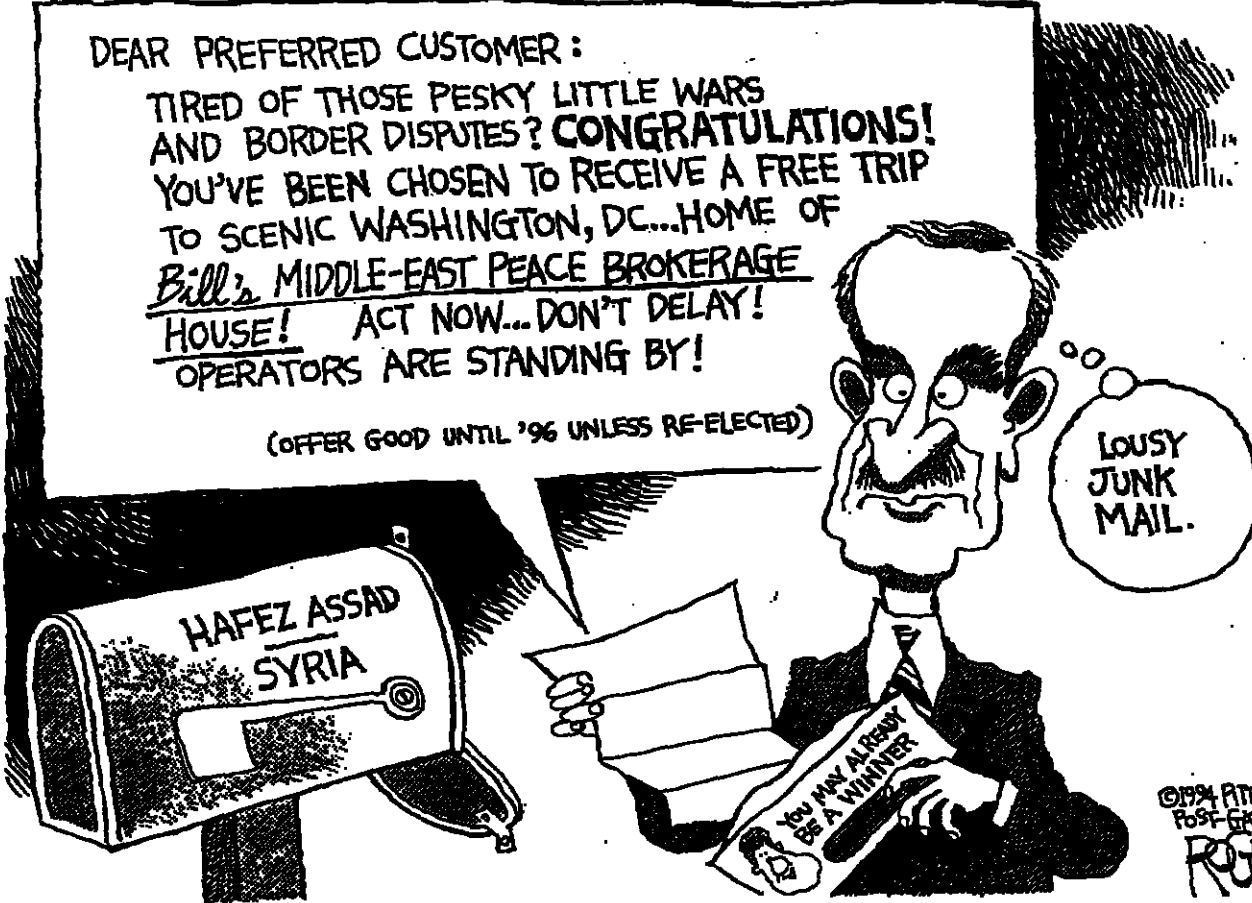
The writer is a former ombudsman of The Washington Post.

EDITORIAL
CARTOONS

DEAR PREFERRED CUSTOMER:

TIRED OF THOSE PESKY LITTLE WARS
AND BORDER DISPUTES? CONGRATULATIONS!
YOU'VE BEEN CHOSEN TO RECEIVE A FREE TRIP
TO SCENIC WASHINGTON, DC...HOME OF
Bill's MIDDLE-EAST PEACE BROKERAGE
HOUSE! ACT NOW...DON'T DELAY!
OPERATORS ARE STANDING BY!

(OFFER GOOD UNTIL '96 UNLESS RE-ELECTED)

Op Ed
The Crisis Crisis

During the first half of 1994 the reigning image of the political future of Africa was the miracle of South Africa's elections, where Nelson Mandela had not only triumphed over apartheid but welcomed his former foes into his administration. This model of cooperation came at a crucial time—in the same year that more than half of the forty-eight countries south of the Sahara had promised multiparty elections, and in the same month that the last of Africa's cold war strongmen, Hastings Kamuzu Banda of Malawi, was voted out of office. For a moment it seemed that Africa's transformation into a continent of nation-states might not be as painful as we had expected. Then came Rwanda. As President Clinton responded to the carnage by bickering with the United Nations of troop numbers, it became clear that the United States was without an Africa policy. Jokes circulated among Africa experts about the late George Moose—not yet deceased but almost invisible assistant secretary of state for African affairs.

Given the general foreign policy vacuum at the center of the Clinton administration, the absence of a policy for Africa should hardly come as a surprise. Still, it is odd that the articulation of a strategy should fall to Brian Atwood, administrator of the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID). Frustrated by the agency's transformation from a development into a disaster relief organization, Atwood is calling for a stronger emphasis on "crisis prevention." For one thing, as he points out, disaster relief is costly: the Somalia operation cost \$2 billion in sixteen months, dwarfing the \$390 million spent on development in the country over thirty years; projections for Rwanda are at \$500 million.

"Crisis prevention" can be a tired nostrum. But if sufficient resources are committed, and problems are detected early enough, it could be a useful guiding principle. In 1993 one of USAID's programs—the Famine Early Warning System (FEWS)—prevented large-scale starvation during the drought-induced famine in Zimbabwe. This month, a second FEWS mission assessed future crop shortfalls in the Horn of Africa and set up a food distribution system.

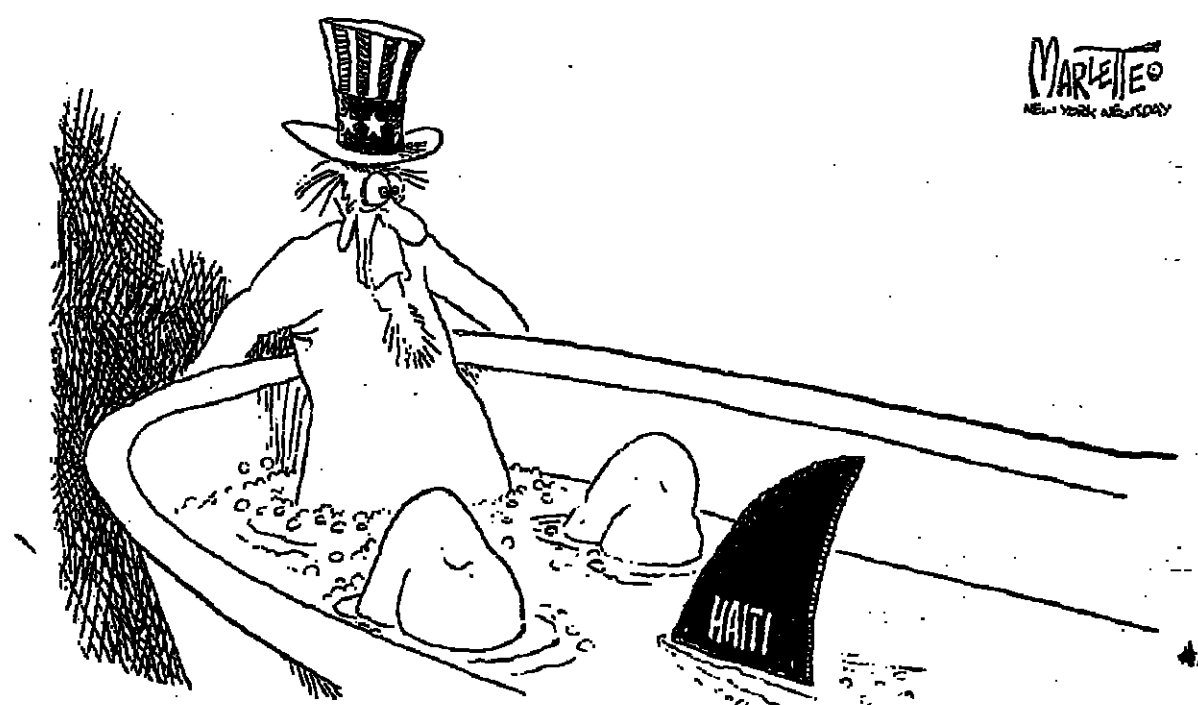
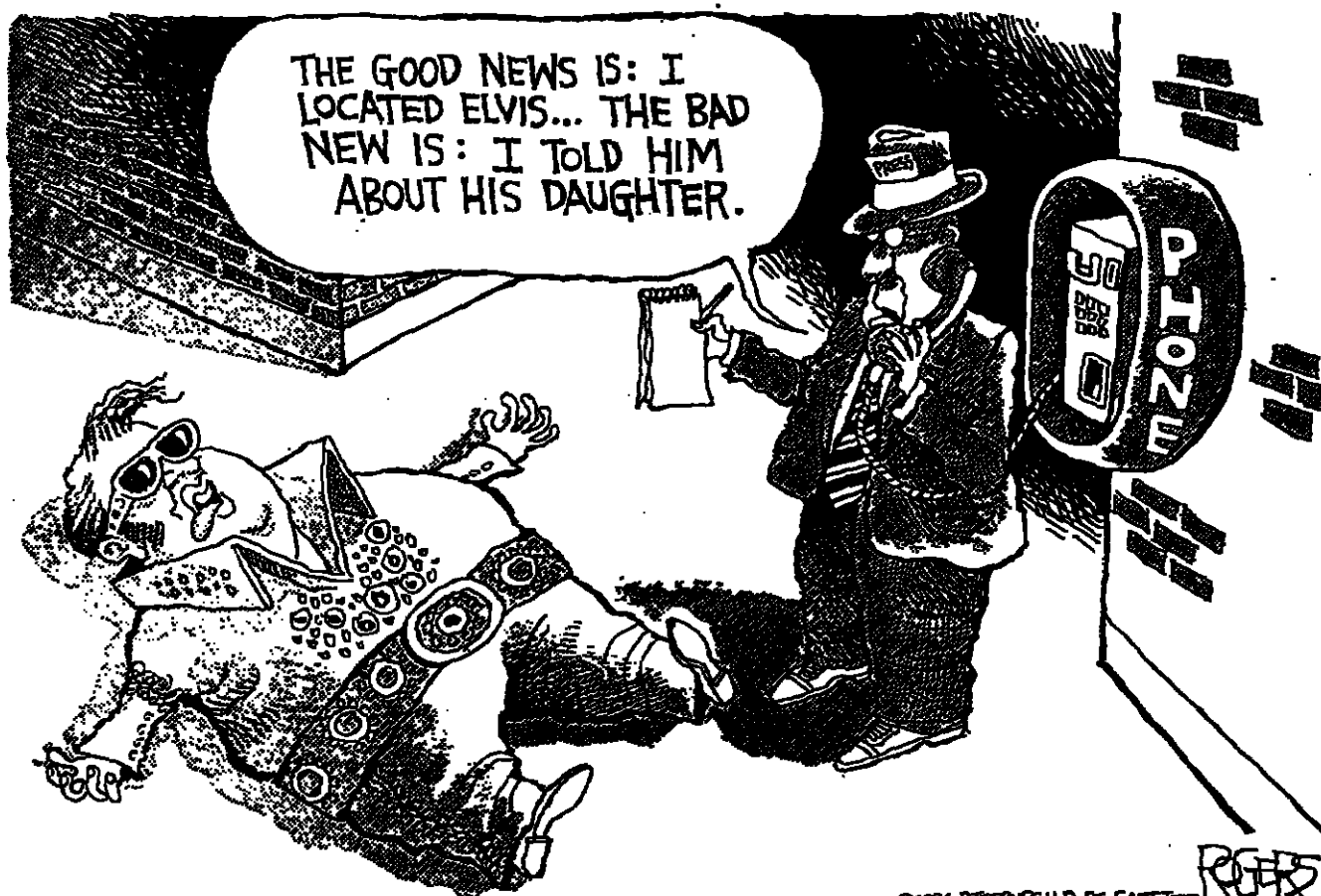
Even in political explosions like Rwanda, the approach can work. As far back as February, human rights organizations warned that Hutu extremists were planning to scuttle the country's uneasy peace. So what did the UN do?

It removed troops. And with American assent. When Rwandan President Juvenal Habyarimana's plane crashed on April 6, the same organizations predicted certain disaster. But it took the United States more than a month to approve a UN resolution to send soldiers, by which time the death toll had reached half a million. A second set of missed opportunities came in late June, when it was clear that the rebel Rwandan Patriotic Front (RPF) would take the capital of Kigali, and that Hutu extremist propaganda would prompt millions of Hutus to flee into Zaire, creating a refugee crisis. In its misguided attempt to remain apolitical, the United States stopped recognizing the Hutu government only on the day it fell. It was late July when American troops arrived to urge the refugees to return home.

Even when crisis prevention fails early on, containing disaster need not be chaotic and ad hoc. In Rwanda, the United States has relied on the troops who set up the Kurdish relief mission, but the Defense Department is resisting its new role as a muscle-bound Red Cross. Given the likelihood of future missions, the responsibility should fall instead to a newly created relief corps. Senator Paul Simon proposes a 3,000-member force in the UN. The Carnegie Endowment has another idea: The International Crisis Group, a private organization that could respond to humanitarian emergencies. Even better might be an American version of the French Foreign Legion.

In the future, crisis prevention will mean working with the Organization of African Unity to receive early intelligence about looming disasters. It will also require that we strike a balance between our desire for quick democratic elections and the need for stable regimes, which may not be democratically elected. The first test case will be Nigeria, where one-fourth of Africa's population lives under the illegitimate rule of General Sani Abacha, who has deposed the elected president, Moshood Abiola. So far we have stumbled—first by removing our ambassador, then by sending Jesse Jackson, who has been reliably accused of having ties to Abacha, as our special envoy. Unless we change our strategy—focusing not only on restoring the elected president, but also on working to plant at least the seeds of a stable society—our future involvement in Africa will be built around emergencies, and it will be bloody.

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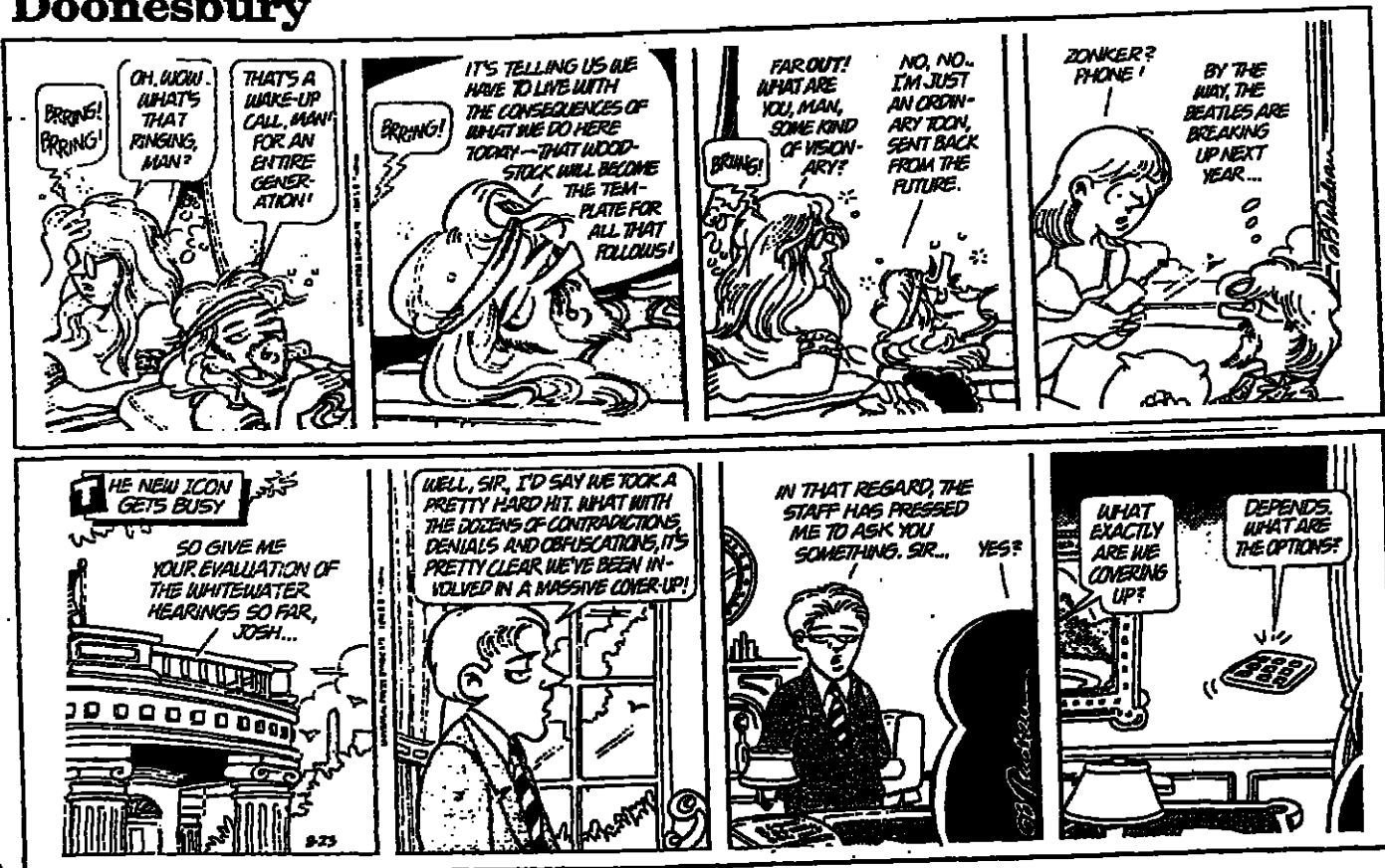


The Sunday COMICS

PERSPECTIVE

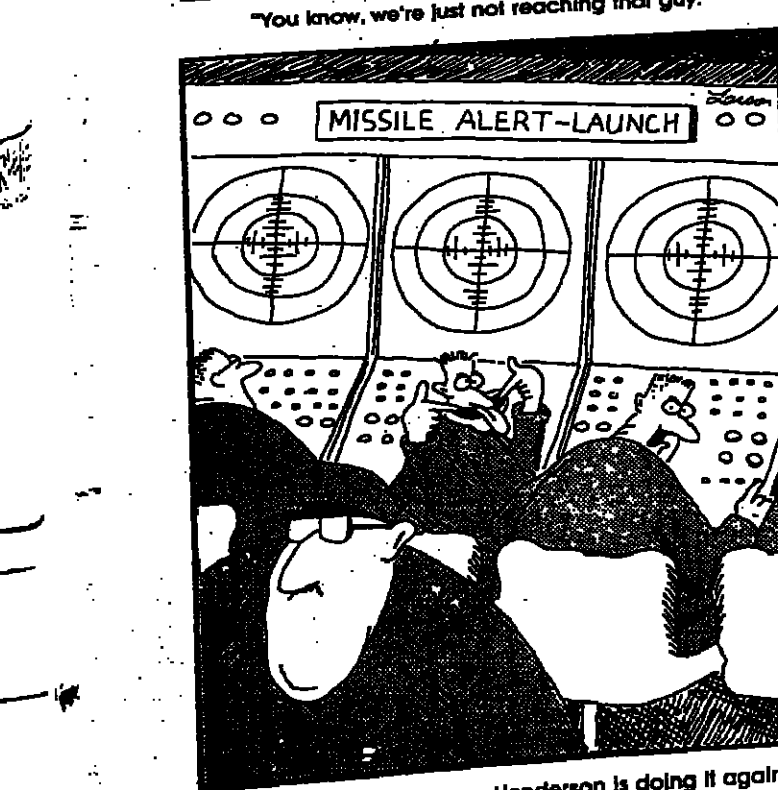
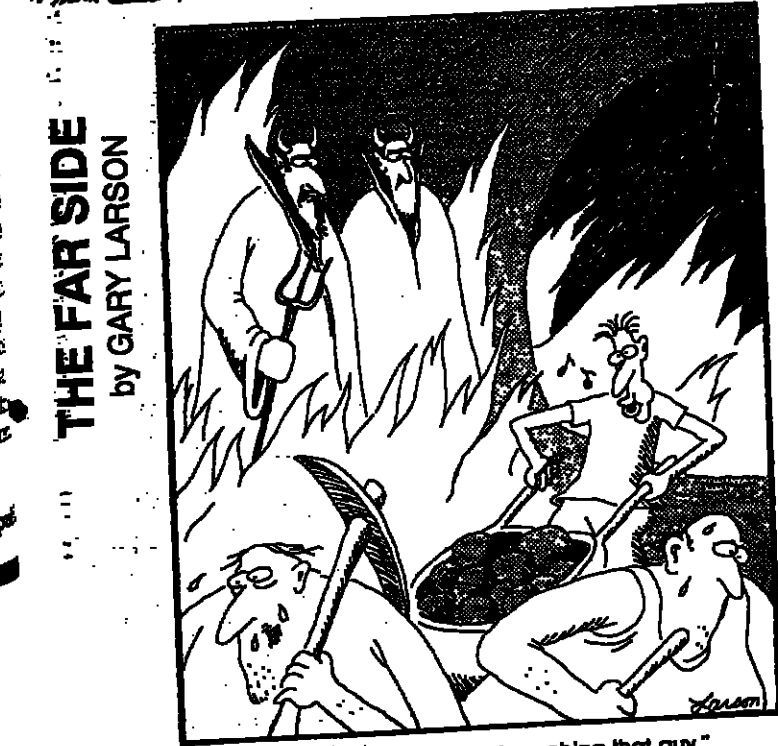
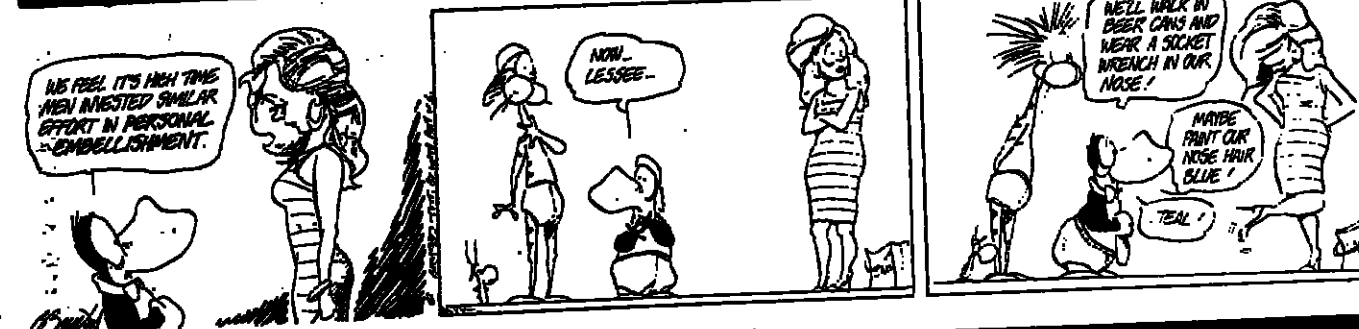
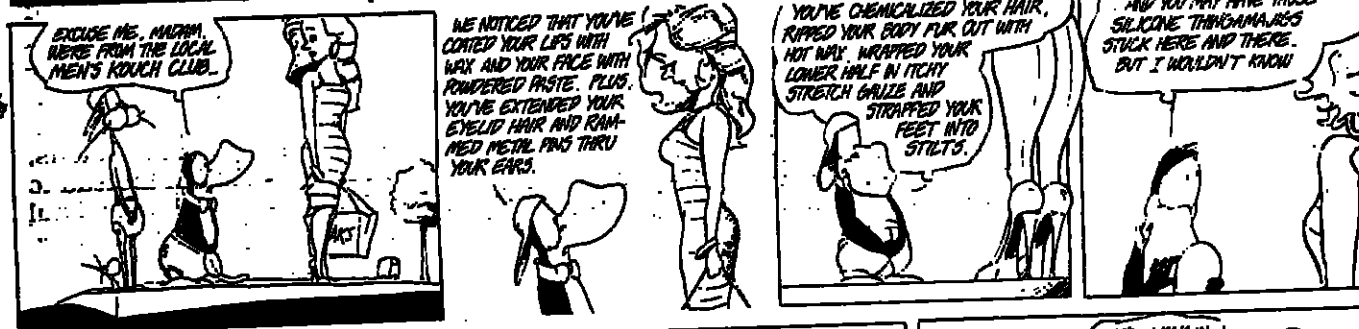
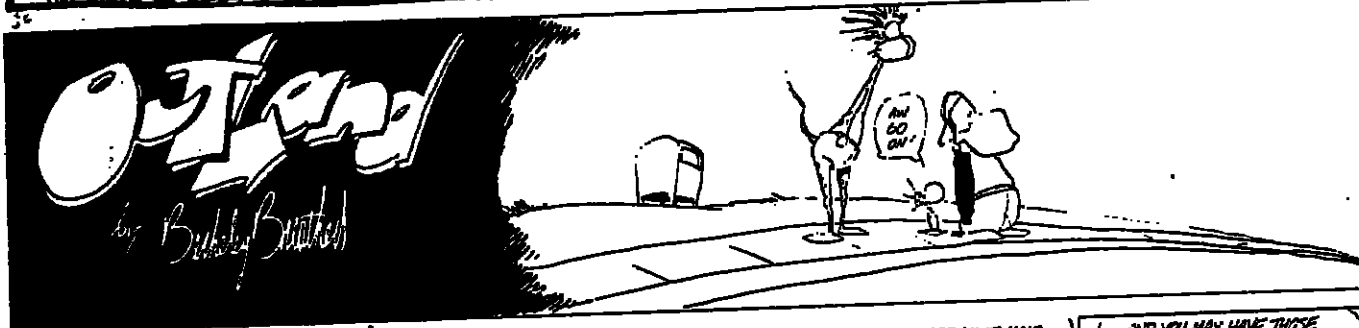
Doonesbury

BY GARRY TRUDEAU



SHOE

by Jeff MacNelly



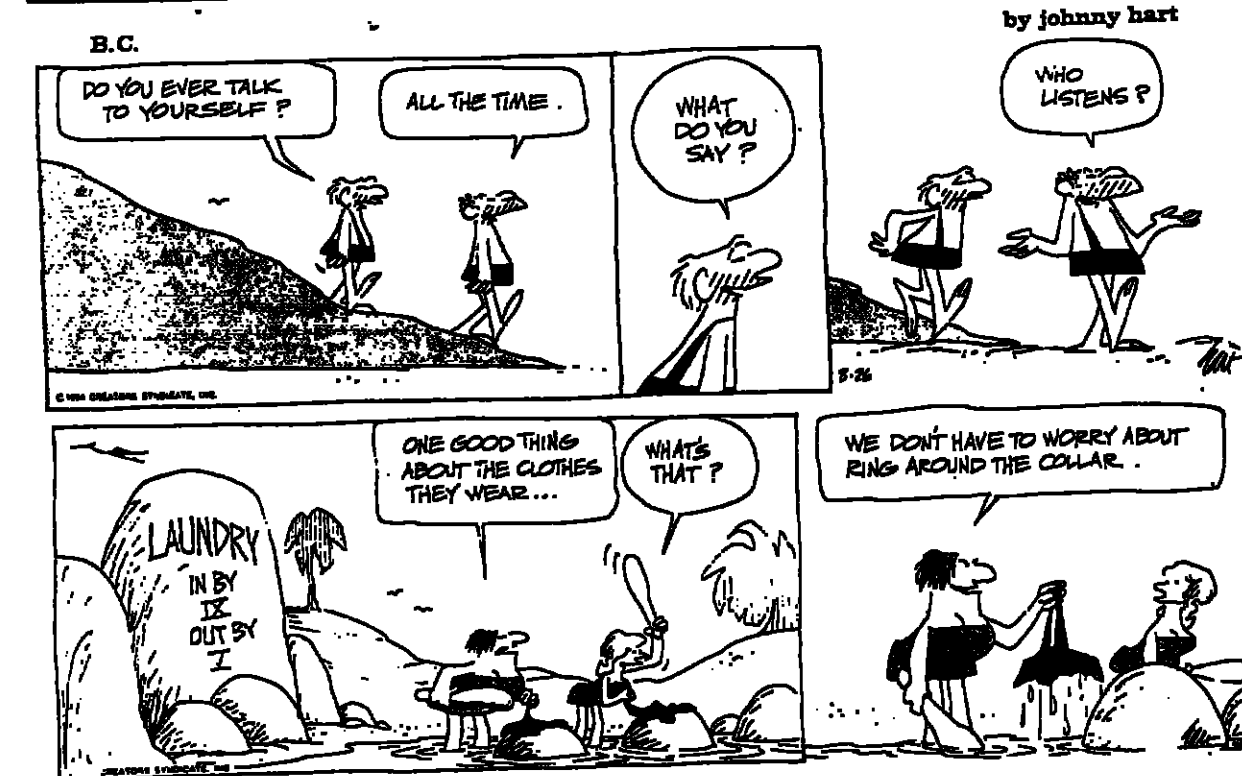
THE NEWSDAY CROSSWORD

Edited by Stanley Newman
TITLE MIX-UP: Wherein some books are taken out-of-order
by Randolph Ross

- ACROSS**
- Shredded side dish
 - Mug in a pub
 - Back of the neck
 - Be congruent
 - Corrida figures
 - See 75 Across
 - "... who lived in ..."
 - Hemingway novel about outer space?
 - Busy ones
 - Florentine patron family
 - Dry watercourses
 - Bono and Liston
 - Steinbeck novel about apples?
 - Breathing problem
 - Journal line
 - Exterminator's word form
 - Impetuousness
 - Curator's deg.
 - Play... (kids' clay)
 - Tolstoy novel about a governess?
 - Have a hot dog
 - Use to excess
 - John ... Garner
 - "... Tread On Me"
 - Board game
 - Lincoln's Secretary of War
 - Nicholson role
 - Review the books
 - H-shaped Greek letters
 - Comedian Phillips
 - Hitching post?
 - Sleep stage
 - McClough novel about aunts?
 - Box-score column heading?
 - Wear away
- DOWN**
- Canned-meat brand
 - Eisenstaed's mag
 - Part of AMPAS
 - Less naive
 - Namely
 - Wash. neighbor
 - canto
 - Big deal
 - Quatrain rhyme scheme
 - Grows in Brooklyn
 - Sidewalk esteries
 - Fix droopy wallpaper
 - With 20 Across, a kind of wrestling
 - Type like this: Abbr.
 - Word form for "mother"
 - Screenplay
 - Aviv
 - Sheldon novel about halos?
 - Objective
 - Immigrant's subj.
 - Fumbles the ball
 - Swiss stream
 - Brawl weapons
 - Fortnight
 - Orwell novel set in the Philippines?
 - Upward pathway
 - German philosopher
 - Underwater research facility
 - Turkish coins
 - Sheldon novel about chess?
 - In regard to
 - Chan portrayer
 - Not even once
 - Clam-sauce alternative
 - Slug
 - Mideast gulf
 - Faxed, maybe
 - Fashion monogram
 - plume
 - With full force
 - Nicklaus norms
 - USN rank
 - MTV regular
 - In unison
 - Eco novel about mining?
 - E.A. Robinson title character
 - Planist Dame Myra
 - Deteriorate
 - Thoroughfare
 - Give a ribbing: Var.
 - Bridge
 - Like a Stephen King novel
 - Sow syllable
 - Consumer watchdog org.
 - Property transferor
 - Tokyo's former name
 - Veterans Day mo.
 - Clancy novel about taxi accountants?
 - Public praisings
 - Ruffles and flourishes
 - Rose oils
 - Follower of due or true
 - Oscar role for Ingrid
 - Made tracks
 - Ugandan city
 - Stewart or Serling
 - Corresponds with
 - Amer. money
 - Degrade oneself in
 - Road surface
 - Pick up the pace
 - Fills with bubbles
 - Makes beloved
 - Read for the class
 - Place on reserve
 - Bowler or boater
 - Works without a net
 - Costs ... Sol
 - CD player maker
 - Sandy's sound
 - Music symbol
 - Antitoxins
 - Bankbook info: Abbr.
 - Army uniforms: Abbr.
 - Adjusts for
 - Marine fliers
 - They may be polished
 - 128 fl. oz.
 - More liberated
 - Spin doctors' concerns
 - Happy as a clam
 - Periodic-table category
 - Artist's representative
 - Social flop
 - Pale as a ghost
 - Cad's rebuke
 - Prong
 - Street player
 - Bathe
 - Last word in prayer
 - Ernie's pal
 - Wild bunch
 - Yoko
 - Gender abbr.
 - Flood-control initials

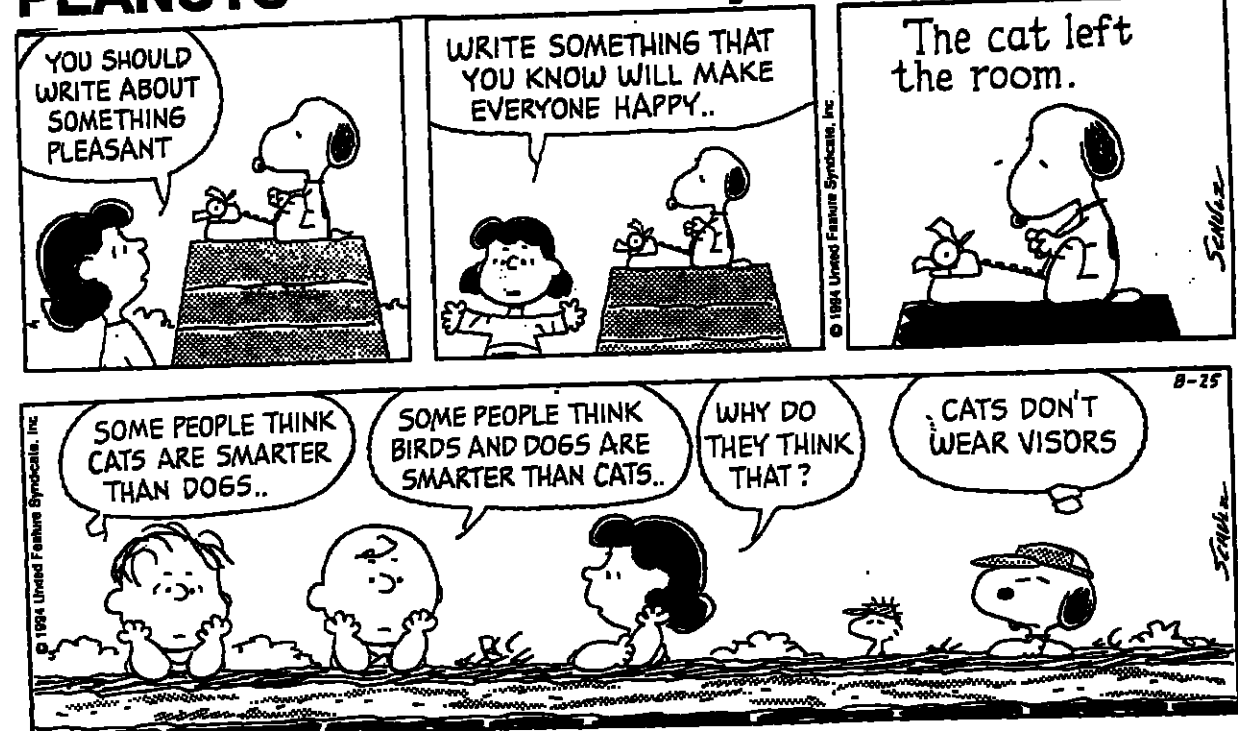
Calvin and Hobbes

by Bill Watterson



PEANUTS

by Charles M. Schulz



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David Nyhan

Now You See It, Now You Don't

Don't expect much today. I'm still hummed out over news that the runaway intelligence agencies theoretically under the control of the U.S. government have snuck a \$350 million office building into a drab Virginia suburb.

And no one admits to knowing how they got away with it. Just when Congress is asking us to trust them while they try to rejig the way we deliver health care in this country, these clowns lose a third of a billion on an office building for an outfit none of us ever heard of.

"The National Reconnaissance Office?" Sorry, try down the hall.

Red-faced congressional oversight chairmen are falling over each other, demanding hearings, pounding tables, choking microphone stands and otherwise trying to put as much distance between this turkey and their hides as humanly possible. How can those spooks sneak a whole four-tower office development complex past our fearless solons? Simple. You hide a third of a billion in your intelligence budgets, and nobody bothers to check further.

So the CIA, which can't even find high-living, Jaguar-driving, foreign-junkie husband and wife spy teams on its payroll, provided half of the cover, and the National Security Agency, the spy satellite outfit, smoke-screened the rest. The 1 million square foot project was launched by

the Bush administration. Once word got out that some spooks were building a spook-nest twice as big as the U.S. Capitol, the Clinton administration lost no time in declassifying the paperwork, letting the rest of us non-security-clearance dolts in on the story.

A third of a billion is still serious money in my book. But in D.C., they can lose it in an eyelash. "Say, senator, where did that pile of 350

million dollar bills move to? We had it here a minute ago."

"Why, I dunno, Mr. Chairman: probably went for one of those hush-hush projects the security boys are always playing with."

Isn't it always the little things that get your goat? Like a little old three-hundred-and-fifty, with six zeroes after it? I once knew a fellow who wangled a political appointment, pulling

down a secret little salary on the side, and when the story broke and the paper made a minor big deal out of it, he griped me that what really bugged him was that his wife found out about the extra cash in the paper over breakfast.

"You know what I mean," he winked, "that was my walkin'-around money."

Our congress-persons have been posturing all year on health care, stamping

their feet and snorting their snorters. And while they vow how deeply attached they are to our physical well-being, and the right of their campaign contributors to keep emptying our health-care wallets, some clowns wearing cloaks and carrying daggers made off with \$350 million in appropriations that could have gone to much greater use elsewhere.

Now, you might think this proves the case, that these boxes in Washington are not to be trusted when it comes to something serious like health care, if they can't keep track of a third of a billion bucks.

I make the opposite case: They better do health care, and do it quick, or don't come home. This health care thing is too big a job to wait any longer. It's now or never. I know this Congress contains a lot of knaves, a generous sprinkling of fools, a lavish supply of just-plain-average-not-too-smart-American-type-hustlers, plus a few genuine statesmen and more than a sprinkling of honest, hard-working individuals who want to do the right thing.

Well, here is their chance. They can make up for the atrocious oversight over the National Reconnaissance Office, and a lot of other sins, by giving us health care. My hunch is that they are so scared of average Americans by now, they won't dare come home without passing health care.

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Leslie Saven

Of Human Beverage

Why is it that beer and soda ads feel compelled to show us how to negotiate the dangers of "the opposite sex"?

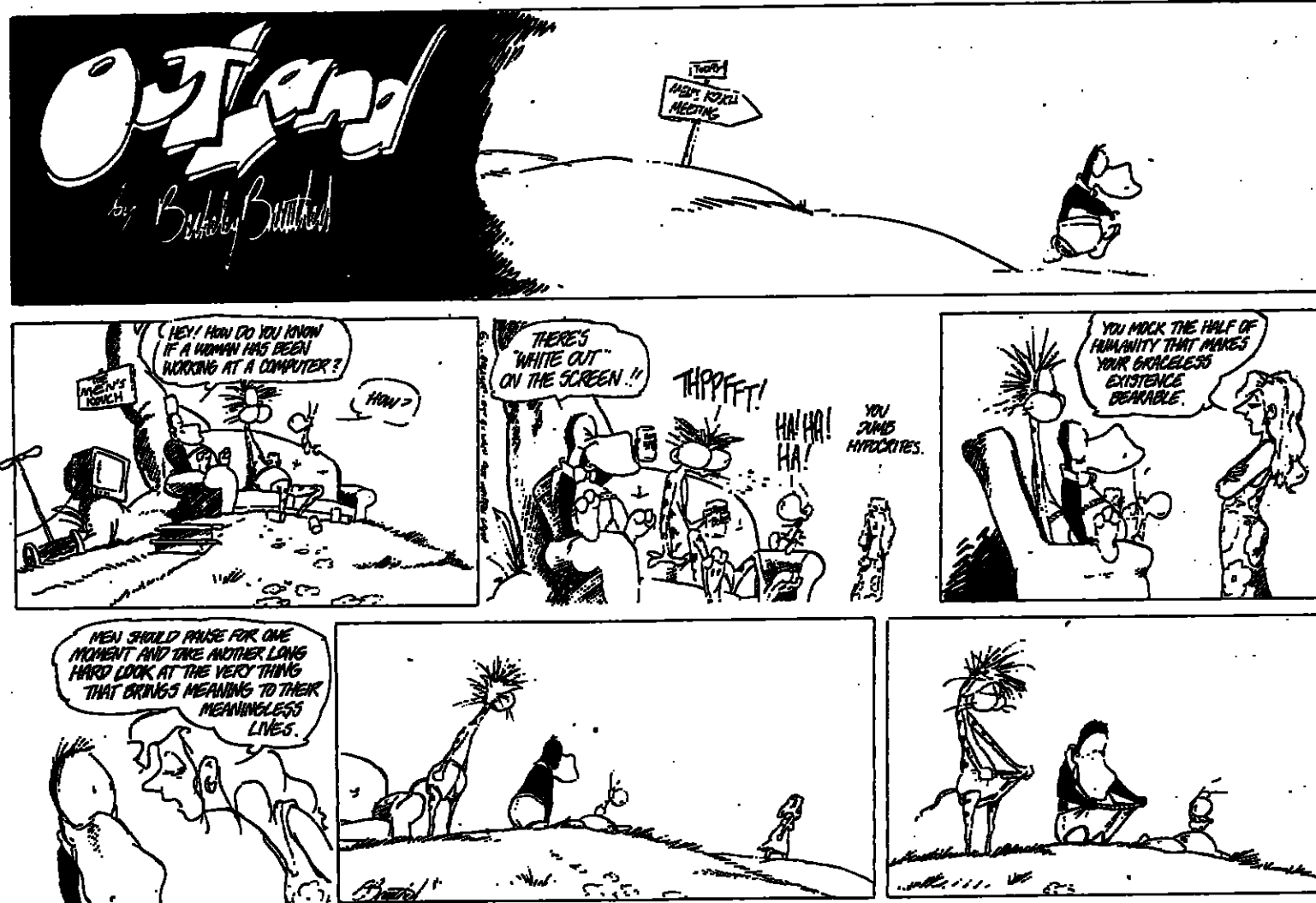
Ever since Old Milwaukee's 1991 Swedish Bikini Team ads crash-landed, a little male vulnerability has been as necessary for brewer survival as designated-driver campaigns are for industry-favorable legislation. In fact, the Century Council, a nonprofit trade group created to encourage responsible drinking, accepts members only if their ads don't "exploit the human form." (The only major brewer to have signed up is Team Bikini's parent company, Stroh.) Tripping over bar stools in their anxiety to show that they get it, beer advertisers are now mounting what might be called designated-dame campaigns.

Still geared mostly to men, these ads use females, or female impersonators, to represent how they don't abuse or stereotype women. In Budweiser's pool-playing spot, it's a woman who calls Gilligan's Island's Ginger "a bimbo." In Bud Light's ad featuring a bunch of hairy guys who dress like gals to hustle cheap drinks on Ladies' Night, it's their willingness to be taken as drag queens that certifies them as commercially correct.

But before I pour another ad, allow me a word about a male quality that supplies the yeast to all beer commercials, old style and new. It's a quality that some real-life dames find both intoxicating and infuriating: an unselfconscious, devil-may-care attitude that seems oblivious to social niceties. When his eyes emit an animal grace, who cares if he burps? But such grace can slide into selfish slobdorm at the drop of an empty beer can.

Beverage ads that turn on "humorous conflict" between the sexes invariably present men as precariously balancing between animal grace and animal table manners.

As in Heineken's latest spot. Strolling through a boatyard, a balding guy mentions to his pal that to celebrate his fifth anniversary he's getting his wife "a really nice washer and dryer." "Come on!" says the friend, "she'll never forgive you. You gotta get her something for her." As he suggests a vacation, the voiceover suggests a lot more: "No blonds in bikinis. No sales pitch from the chairman. None of that is what made Heineken the number-one imported beer in America." The bald guy's brain is thumping hard:



"You think I should take her some place special?" "Yeah." "So... maybe I'll take her to Cooperstown." "No."

This ad has it all: Authentic guys (proven by the sports forebrain) who are nevertheless '90s real men (honestly struggling to understand and please women); a designated dame (even in her absence, the wife validates her guy's inner struggle); and classic beer commercials to serve as the straw (sexist) man. All in all, it flatters guys who buy imported beer that they're evolving in the right direction.

"We're fighting off all the faddishness of beer advertising," says Philip Van Munching, ad director at Heineken's U.S. importer, Van Munching & Co. "It was easy ground for us to take because we never did the 'beach, caving, hey, good time! babe thing.'"

If, with the exception of the still bikini'd Coors, more brewers are putting women under wraps — Budweiser banned bimbos several years ago — that's because "everybody was so utterly shocked by the Swedish Bikini Team," says Van Munching. And yet the Heineken spots targeting men (men buy more imports) are actually more sensitive to women than the same company's spots for Amstel Light, which women buy in almost equal quantities as men.

Last year, an Amstel spot had a bunch of guys at a bar bantering over what would happen "if life were perfect." One guy said, "if life were perfect" "women wouldn't talk during the bottom of the ninth." For that, Van Munching says, "I was called a misogynist. But it was a joke. The guy was supposed to be a jerk. Where is anyone's sense of humor?"

And so the new post-clod Amstel campaign spins on a softer schism, that there are "always a couple of ways to look at things." In one spot, a man and woman interpret their first date completely differently — he says he was "a good listener"; she says "he never shut up," and so on. The only thing anyone can agree on is — what else? — Amstel Light. But if life were really perfect, TV's boy versus girl banter would stop insisting that only the sponsor's product can rise above the fray of sexual politics.

But that's asking too much. Because no matter what the sex-role tension, a beverage runs through it. In the face of all gender questions, a swig is the solution — just as we nervously chug through first dates. For the moment, the beverage-sex spot that people are talking about (on college campuses I've seen

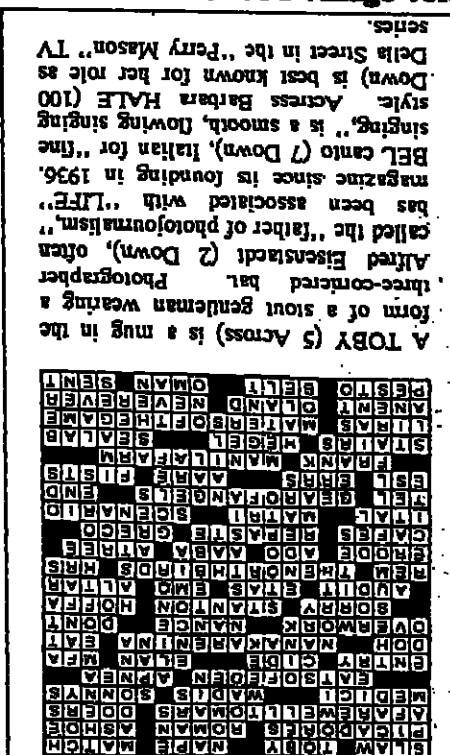
its mere mention get both wolf whistles and hisses) is Diet Coke's: During their "Diet Coke break," women office workers ogle a construction worker who takes off his shirt and slowly sucks the syrup. This ad has been attacked as "reverse sexism" for showing women with whetted lips objectifying a man; Andrea Dworkin has said it makes women look "stupid" and that "most women have better things to do during our office break time."

Loath though I am to defend Coke, I think both complaints have it wrong. Charges of "reverse sexism" hold only if all else is equal — but there's a basic difference in how men and women ogle. When men ogle women, there hovers at least the possibility of threat; when women ogle men, it's so damn safe it's cute. And Dworkinists might like to believe that women never lust after men's bodies, but please. (And when we do, sure we occasionally look stupid — let's wear that look with pride!)

And the river flows on: Coke's topless model, Lucky Vanous, is now so hot that he'll appear in an episode of *Wings* — just so Helen and Alex can beg him to take his shirt off. Helen is played by Crystal Bernard, who briefly dated Rush Limbaugh; Knowadays, Limbaugh is doing on-air ads for the Florida Citrus Commission, and NOW is demanding that the commission drop him. With slogans like "Flush Rush: Drink prune juice," NOW is urging consumers to buy non-Florida citrus products and to shun Coca-Cola products as well — a VP of Coca-Cola Foods, which owns Minute Maid orange juice, is the chair of the Citrus Commission.

It all just reminds me of a Minute Maid tag line: "We pour every ounce of ourselves into our juice." Yecchi!

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Politics lie under rocks in search for roots

THERE AND THEN
SRAYA SHAPIRO

A nation of immigrants looks for a unifying history. The late Prof. Aharon Kempinski grudgingly admitted that David Ben-Gurion had a point when he urged archeologists here to look for tangible traces of ancient Jewish life.

But the professor was not happy about mixing politics and science, to judge from his article in the 100th issue of *Ariel*, the lavishly produced publication which is devoted to the history of Eretz Yisrael.

Ben-Gurion saw a parallel between Joshua's conquest of the land and the War of Independence. Yigael Yadin, chief of operations in the War of Independence, established Jewish hegemony here by means of a military victory, as Joshua had done.

Ben-Gurion and Yadin had no doubt that the Book of Joshua described a historical event. "A naive attitude," Kempinski wrote.

He was inclined to the theory of some German exegetes, supported by such noted scholars as Binyamin Mazar and Yohanan Aharoni, that the infiltration of the Hebrew tribes into the Canaanite domain was a lengthy process, hardly concluded in one generation. What happened nearly 3,000 years ago had modern political connotations, Kempinski observed.

The theory of the speedy military decision was the one Ze'ev Jabotinsky and his Revisionist followers professed. The Labor Movement, on the other hand, comprised proponents of a "dunam by dunam" advance, as defined by Chaim Weizmann and generally followed by the Zionist Organization policymakers.

BEN-GURION, in Kempinski's view, tacitly lined up with the Joshua conquest theory - but not entirely. Long after the battles of the War of Independence were over, Ben-Gurion shocked public opinion by arguing that the bulk of the Hebrew-speaking tribes had never left the country at all; only a minority of well-to-do Israelites made for Egypt, to evade hunger. The base of the Hebrews



Pre-eminent archeologist and soldier, Yigael Yadin (far left) at work on a dig. (David Rubinger)

"Now," he concluded his address, "I'll show you the missives sent by the first president of this land." He then screened the slides he had made of Bar-Kochba's letters.

Yadin's dramatic bent no doubt contributed greatly to the popular interest in archeology. His three years on Masada yielded little to supplement Josephus's narrative of the collective suicide of the Judean defenders against the Romans, noted Kempinski. But the drama of Masada captured the imagination.

Masada was chosen as the place to

take recruits to swear allegiance to the State. At the recent exhibition of Masada finds at the Tel Aviv Museum, which marked the 10th anniversary of Yadin's death, the centerpiece consisted of 11 shards marked with names that vaguely correspond to those chosen by lot to kill the defenders before committing suicide themselves. Call it valor, pride, madness - as you wish - but this reminder of Jewish agony is undeniably moving.

Kempinski argued that interest in archeology had abated since nobody challenges Israel's hold on the land within

Keep claws on your cat

HEADS 'N' TAILS
D'VORA BEN SHAUL

MANY pet owners have cats that are unsatisfied with a scratching pole and instead insist on clawing the sofa, the carpet or even the drapes.

In many cases, veterinary surgeons recommend removing the cat's claws. A number of readers have written to this column asking about this procedure.

Although declawing cats is not new, it has become more common in recent decades.

The operation is not complicated, but is irreversible. It is done under a general anesthetic and does not take long. The cat usually wakes up and is taken home after an hour or so.

But there are some definite drawbacks to declawing. The declawed cat is totally defenseless and must never be let out of the house or apartment.

Those who do get out usually come to an unfortunate end. The declawing also changes the cat's natural graceful walk, and the feet look less cat-like and more floppy.

Some people insist that declawing also changes a cat's personality. Having personally never had a declawed cat, I do not know if this is true or not, but it seems reasonable.

As to the question of whether to do this, each individual must make his own decision.

However, it seems there is a big difference between neutering to prevent unwanted animal births and performing a surgical mutilation for our own comfort.

This applies equally to the less common practice of debarking dogs by operating on the vocal cords.

There are plenty of pets that do not scratch the furniture, and perhaps one of them would be more suitable to the lifestyle of those for whom the scratching is a problem.

Aquariums, parakeets, canaries and even a terrarium can be a pleasant pastime. Dogs and hamsters are also pleasant pets.

Some people feel, however, that they prefer a cat, but one is forced to wonder if they are really fond of cats or their idealized image of one.

Most real cat fanciers like it specifically for what it is. It wasn't by chance that a world-famous animal-behavior expert once said that "if I were the Almighty and wanted to make an animal I'd make a cat."

He, like so many people, felt that a cat was just about the most perfect animal in the world, claws and all.

The tale of the domestic battle to save Josepha the free

KISHON'S KEYHOLE
EPHRAIM KISHON

THE following story will, I'm afraid, be appreciated only by professional parents, students and babies. It is the story of an Israeli babysitter or, to be precise, of our last sister but one.

When we moved out of noisy Tel Aviv into the green suburbs, we gave up the services of our faithful Regina and went over to academic babysitting. Once in a while, that is, we pick a pretty student from the nearby campus, philosophy or comparative literature by preference, and give her the run of our brood.

The kids soon grow fond of her and everything's fine, till one day the machine starts to creak and all of a sudden our cutie isn't free in the evenings any more, and she's got exams, and she can only come Wednesday, and even then she does her cramming with Gideon, and we come home Wednesday night and they're both on the couch with pink ears from much hard studying, and the cushions are crumpled and Gideon is combing his hair, and the wife says to me:

"That little hussy's already found herself someone."

And there, as a rule, the career of one babysitter ends and the next one enters the picture.

This time it was Josepha.

She, already looking promising on sight: so small she was, so fragile, so bespectacled. The little woman took her for a girl of 13, but it turned out she'd already passed the 20-on her thin little legs. Josepha invariably wore slacks, and instead of speaking she rustled - a few words at a time, and with lowered eyes. Numerous moles dotted her little white face, and in fact, that's just what she looked like herself: a little mole. All in all, she seemed like an ide-

ally long-play babysitter.

Sure enough, Josepha came up to expectation. She'd show up on the dot, rustle "hi," and settle down in the kids' room to copy out something into one of her numerous notebooks. She never read, did Josepha, she never wrote, she just copied all the time, but we said nothing. Nobody is perfect, after all, except Amy. Still, Josepha came a close second, because unlike all our other academic babysitters, she was always free. Always.

Never mind when we'd summon her, she'd always whisper back into the phone at once: "Yes, I'm free."

"Could you come a bit earlier?"

"Yes."

"And stay late?"

"Yes."

And before long she'd come to copy, softly and with downcast eyes.

I'd drive her home at night, and you could hear a pin drop in the car. I did crack under the strain once, to ask her what they were teaching in Comp. Lit. these days, and Josepha rustled: "Thank you," and that put an end to our lively conversation.

In every other way, however, she was the model sister: ever soundproof, ever free, ever Josepha. We were very happy with her, and the kids, too, respected her Trappist silence, thin as she was. Once or twice we tried inviting her to join us for supper, but she only shook her head and looked scared. My wife was of the opinion that she never ate. Josepha, according to the wife, was a bit strange altogether.

"The poor thing," she said, "I mean, it just isn't natural that a young girl like that should always be free, is it?" It was pretty funny,

more, the effect of that handshake was lasting, and from then on the pace accelerated.

"Sorry," Josepha would rustle over the phone, "I'm busy."

"Busy," she'd said, like a big girl. Delicious.

"And tomorrow?"

"Only till nine..."

Good! We were as proud of her as parents of their baby's first tooth. We'd got the poor kid back in step after all, we'd saved a Jewish maiden from eternal spinsterhood. So we stayed at home well content, and the only thing that bothered us a little was that we were staying at home, and couldn't go out on account of Josepha. It was really disgusting. You'd have expected more loyalty from a girl you'd picked out of the gutter with your own two hands.

When we heard that Josepha and Naftali had been seen walking in the park by moonlight, while we ourselves were confined to barracks, the woman's dam burst:

"The little hussy!" she said. "The first boy that whistles - she runs..."

We'd have switched the little sex maniac for another copyist without thinking twice, except that the kids stuck out for Josepha, no doubt fascinated by some-

thing about her: legs, specs, dunno. So whenever we got her "Sorry, I can't tonight" on the phone again, we just swallowed the insult. What could we do?

Our cup of bitterness overflowed on the dark night of July 21, when we'd got Grandma to babysit and gone to the movies. Coming home we spotted a young couple standing under a lamp-post in deep and meaningful silence - them!

"G'night," rustled Josepha as we passed, whereupon the little one could no longer contain herself:

"My dear," she spat at the little hussy, "I thought you were working for an exam!"

"She is," said Naftali gallantly. "She studies all the time. Only tonight she's been babysitting for us and I'm just taking her home..."

Josepha cast her eyes down lower than ever, and took herself and her bogus moles off into the night. The wife swore softly, and I took a silent vow then and there, under the lamp-post, that from now on I'd pick nothing but cuties, nothing but smashing blonde cuties to babysit for us, biology or physics.

Translated by Miriam Arad

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SUPER-SOL • HYPERCOL

Public should be partners in baseball business

SYDNEY H. SCHANBERG
Newsday

IF baseball is America's national pastime, as people like me are always rhapsodizing, then why isn't America a partner in this enterprise? The players' strike is very costly to both the public psyche and the public treasury. Yet the public has no voice in these matters.

The free ride for baseball has gone too far.

City and state politicians, choosing to believe that losing a Major-League franchise is tantamount to simultaneously losing face and being visited by the bubonic plague, regularly allow themselves to be blackmailed by exodus-threatening baseball owners into building grand new stadiums and other amenities—entirely at public cost, usually in the hundreds of millions of dollars. Yet, because of baseball's mythic image, no one seems to think it odd that the taxpayers don't usually get to vote "yes" or "no" on these vast outlays of their dollars.

At the federal level, too, baseball receives special status, having been granted full exemption from the anti-trust laws so it can operate as a monopoly. There was no voter referendum on that one either.

My point is simple. It's time to raise hell. Everybody walks on eggshells around baseball. That's got to stop.

Mystique or no, there have simply been too many violations of the public's naive trust.

If we're going to lay out huge bundles of public tax dollars to ensure the profitability of these private enterprises, then the government entities that provide this capital ought to get a proportional percentage of those profits. In other words, a city or state that spends half a billion dollars to put up a new stadium and build new access roads for it should automati-

cally become a part owner of that team, with the percentage of ownership to be negotiated.

In fact, that very magnitude of expenditure is about to take place in New York City, specifically in the borough of the Bronx where the Yankees play and profit.

Principal owner George Steinbrenner, like so many other owners, has been pampered by the local government. For instance, he is allowed to pay only a minimal rent for Yankee Stadium, which is owned and periodically refurbished by the city of New York. The rent payment, based on a formula that lets him deduct maintenance costs, has averaged out in recent times to just a few hundred thousand dollars a year. This pittance of a figure is achieved through creative accounting by the Yankee front office; the city obliges by never auditing the team's books.

Yankee profits have been lush. But of late, Steinbrenner has declared them not lush enough. Taking notice of the sudden surge in attendance in cities like Cleveland and Baltimore, where the baseball teams have spanking new stadiums (built by their local governments), the New York owner has threatened to move his franchise elsewhere unless government provides him with a new playpen. The mayor and governor have responded by imitating frightened rabbits, holding out architectural plans and bags of money as they beg Steinbrenner not to leave home. The price tag is a minimum of \$600 million.

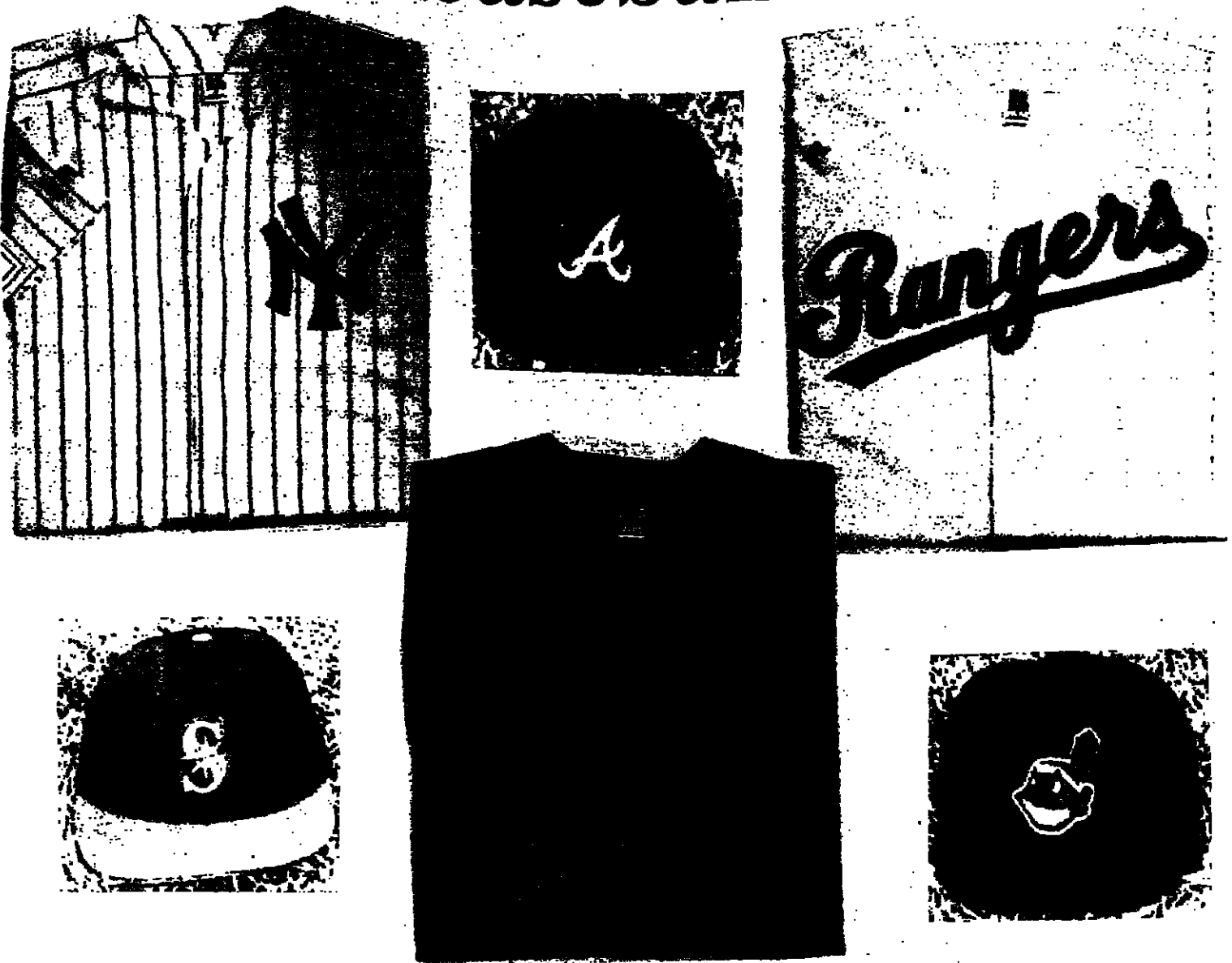
This mayor-governor combine has

been very polite, careful not to ask anything in return for the money, certainly not a partnership in the Yankee profit-making machine. Why should we countenance this? The Yankees aren't down on their luck, homeless, in need of shelter or food stamps. Why can't we insist on being partners? Why can't we demand to see Steinbrenner's books? For that matter, why can't we demand to see the books of any baseball team that receives taxpayer subsidies—which means all of them?

This brings us back to the immediate strike situation. That's what it is—a situation. It's not the good guys against the bad guys; the players make too much money to get the hero role in the morality play. But at least we know what the players make. The owners, crying poverty, refuse to open their books.

Where's the federal government in all this? Well, President Bill Clinton says he's a rabid fan and says it's all a shame because a strike will devastate America's soul, but he doesn't think it's appropriate for him to get involved. His labor secretary, Robert Reich, has taken an equally aggressive stand, asking distraught fans to write to him about their displeasure and he will pass the mail on to both management and the players' union. That's what we call a stirring profile in courage. What about the hardly revolutionary notion of ordering, or at least pressuring, the two sides to accept binding arbitration? If, that is, the strike is really devastating to our souls.

And then, after the strike is halted, can we discuss this partnership idea, so maybe we can get something more than psychic return for all the money we invest in that private enterprise known as baseball?



WHERE HAVE ALL THE PLAYERS GONE? — Baseball fans dig in for a long, dry autumn.

US Open features walking wounded

NEW YORK (AP)—They're walking wounded into the US Open, if they're walking at all: Pete Sampras on his sore foot, Steffi Graf with her back spasms, the state of their health as precarious as the state of their sport.

Martina Navratilova, worn out, is staying away from the start of play tomorrow. Jim Courier, burned out, almost did the same. Goran Ivanisevic, hurting in the hip, may drop out yet. No one has seen Jennifer Capriati or Monica Seles for a long time. Jimmy Connors couldn't be talked into coming back, though the US Tennis Association tried mightily.

Tennis is not dying. It's wheezing and limping along, hiding sometimes.

Sampras, the US Open's defending champion and top seed, is having his problems. He injured his ankle in a multimillion-dollar foul-up. Just before winning Wimbledon, he signed a fat contract with Nike and donned new sneakers designed specifically for him. Nike introduced these new wonders of the shoe world with great fanfare.

Problem was, Sampras' feet didn't take the change so kindly. He sprained his right ankle slightly when his shoe stuck on the grass at Wimbledon, then injured tendons and ligaments in his left ankle at the Davis Cup.

Sampras blamed the shoes and too many matches, and he hasn't played in more than a month. He's made up his mind to play through the pain at the Open, though he doesn't know how effective he'll be, and Nike has been working with him on the shoes to get them right. Maybe he should just go back to his old sneakers.

Graf's injury and her losses in the French Open and Wimbledon make her chances far less certain. French Open champion Arantxa Sanchez Vicario (No. 2), Wimbledon champ Conchita Martinez (No. 3) and Mary Pierce (No. 4) are the strongest challengers. No. 6 Lindsay Davenport, fresh out of high school, has a shot at her first major title if she's not slowed by the leg injuries that have bothered her recently.

Most of the players seem to be nursing one ache or another. The trainer's room will be more crowded than the expanded, spiffed-up lounge the USTA installed to pamper the players a little more.

Along with the perception that there are too many pampered brats in tennis, the sport seems to be suffering from an image problem.

Says John McEnroe, "It's hard to really say who's in charge, there are so many different factions. You've got the USTA trying to protect the US Open and you've got the people at Wimbledon, the French, the ITF that sort of covers all the majors and the Davis Cup and the Olympics."

McEnroe argued that the ATP Tour is weak and poorly run.

"They don't have any of the big tournaments, and they're trying to pretend their tournaments are big when they're not," he said. "This tour is not a players' tour. This is a tournament directors' tour. That should be stressed. This is just the tournament directors wanting the players to play every single week of the year."

Navratilova and McEnroe both said the players would prefer a slimmed down schedule to reduce injuries and boost the quality of competition. Right now, there are so many tournaments and exhibitions scattered worldwide that the top players rarely meet.



NEW STAR IN ITALIAN FIRMAMENT — US's Alexi Lalas signs autographs for newly adopted Paduan fans.

Batistuta, Brolin, Lalas brighten upcoming Italian soccer season

ROME (AP)—Several stars of USA '94 — the most-watched and second-highest scoring World Cup in history — will showcase their talents in the Italian first division this season, which starts next week.

That includes Juventus of Turin striker Roberto Baggio, the 1993 player of the year, who carried Italy to the World Cup final with a remarkable run of five goals in three games.

Baggio's play merited a spot on the FIFA World Cup all-star team.

Others who fit up scoreboards in the US and look to do the same in Italy this year are Argentina's Gabriel Batistuta, Sweden's Tomas Brolin and Holland's Dennis Bergkamp.

Batistuta, who plays with newly-promoted Fiorentina, opened the Cup's theatrics with three goals in Argentina's first-round 4-0 thrashing of Nigeria. He finished the tournament with four goals.

Brolin is one of 11 World Cup

participants on Parma's roster. He was a pivotal part of Sweden's offense, the most prolific at the Cup with 15 goals. Brolin scored three of those, helping the Swedes make it to the semifinals and earning all-star status.

Bergkamp, an honorable mention all-star, directed a potent Dutch attack from his withdrawn striker position and tallied three goals in the US. He'll team up front with Argentine national striker Abel Balbo (one World Cup goal) for Internazionale of Milan this season.

Inter also has Dutch midfielder Wim Jonk, whose first of two World Cup goals helped Holland avert a first-round upset against Saudi Arabia.

Working to keep the big names on offense from doing their job will be World Cup defensive standouts.

Marcio Santos, a cornerstone of the Brazilian defense that allowed a tour-

namment-low three goals on its way to the title, has joined Fiorentina from Bordeaux. Santos was a member of the FIFA all-star team.

Fellow Brazilian defender Aldair plays for AS Roma.

US national team defender Alexi Lalas, who helped the side advance past the first round for the first time in 64 years, has joined newly-promoted Padova to become the first American-born player in the Italian first division.

Lalas' rock-'n'-roll play thrilled the home crowds and earned him an honorable mention All-Star nod at the World Cup.

World Cup all-star Paolo Maldini, considered the top left back in the world, is one of seven members of the Italian side on the roster of three-time defending league champ AC Milan.

All 22 members of the Italian national team, runner-up to champion Brazil, will play in the first division.

Alan Rothenberg re-elected as US Soccer Federation president

TOM TUGEND
Los Angeles

ALAN Rothenberg, the Los Angeles attorney largely responsible for the success of the '94 World Cup soccer games, has been re-elected in a cliffhanger vote as president of the US Soccer Federation.

Running against two other candidates, Rothenberg edged his nearest rival by 48.8 percent vs. 46.9 percent on the first ballot, and gained a narrow majority on the second ballot after the third candidate dropped out.

The 55-year old Rothenberg, active in the Jewish community before his intense involvement on the American and international soccer scene, came in for considerable criticism at the USSF general meeting in San Diego.

Critics faulted Rothenberg's alleged high-pressure reelection campaign, undue influence exerted on his behalf by FIFA, soccer's international governing body, and conflict of interest by Rothenberg as head of the proposed new professional league, Major League Soccer.

In the tense runoff to the ballots, US World Cup Coach Bora Milutinovic remarked that, "Somebody told me that penalty kicks were bad. This is worse."

Rothenberg, who served as chairman of the World Cup Organizing Committee, was able to announce that profits from the games would likely exceed \$40 million, more than double the earlier projection.

Even that good news was not an unalloyed plus for Rothenberg, as critics questioned setting aside \$14m of the profits for severance, vacation pay and bonuses for about 500 employees of the World Cup Organizing Committee. Rothenberg's bonus is expected to be about \$2m.

In his first election to the USSF presidency four years ago, Rothenberg, then pretty much of an outsider, enlisted the support of former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger, a veteran soccer fan who served on the board of the World Cup Organizing Committee.

On the local Jewish scene, Rothenberg has served on the board of directors of the Jewish Federation Council and its Community Relations Committee, and as head of the United Jewish Fund campaign for the San Fernando Valley. He is also a past vice president of Sinai Temple, a leading Conservative congregation.

IOC worries over Atlanta heat

ATLANTA (AP) — Scorching summer temperatures are nothing new to Atlantans, but Olympic athletes and spectators from more temperate parts of the world may have trouble beating the heat in 1996.

The heat tolerance of spectators is of particular concern to International Olympic Committee officials, because they won't be under the watchful eye of coaches, like the athletes.

Providing free beverages, even water, could be a problem for officials because sponsors such as the Coca-Cola Co. and Anheuser-Busch hold the rights to provide soft drinks and beer at the Olympic Games.

"We're not trying to interfere with the Olympic Games," said Susan Pease Langford, the city's director of Olympic coordination. "You'd be interfering with all the businesses that want

to sell their products."

For now, neither local health department nor private organizations such as the American Red Cross has plans to distribute free water to tourists.

Temperatures are expected to hover in the mid-to-high-90° F (about 37-41°C) about 10 degrees hotter than 1992's Barcelona Summer Games.

International Olympic officials, however, have a different picture of summertime in Atlanta.

"The Atlanta bid committee said the average temperature during the proposed dates for the Olympics was 78° F (20°C)," said Dick Pound, chairman of the International Olympic Committee's coordination commission for the Atlanta Games.

Pound and other officials had been doubtful of the figures ACOG gave based in a 10-year survey by the

National Weather Service.

"I guess that's Atlanta's dirty little secret," Pound has said.

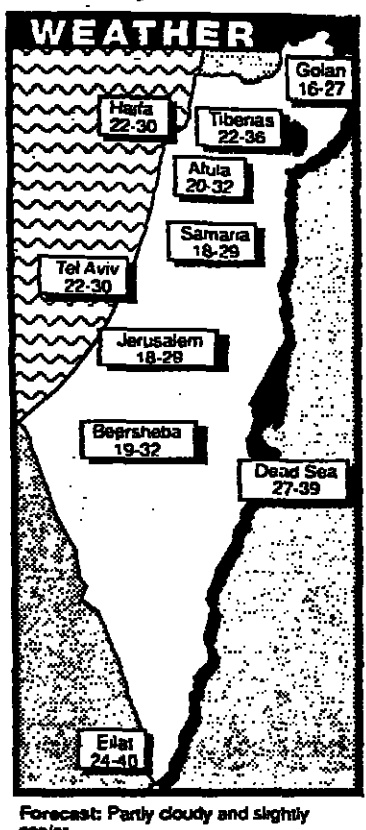
Many people already know that sunburn, heat stroke and heat exhaustion can come easily at temperatures in the high 90s. But what may not be especially well known, especially to Europeans and Northerners, is that the same problems can happen at lower temperatures if there is high humidity.

In high relative humidity, the human body does not cool easily or quickly through sweating because the air is already saturated with moisture.

Atlanta's humidity can also reach the 90 percent level in summer.

ACOG is working with experts on heat disorders and doctors experienced in dealing with heat and crowds in Atlanta, such as the Peachtree Road Race.

TODAY		
CHANNEL 5	Formula 1 18:30 Formula 3000 19:30 Euro-sport news 20:00 Speed world 22:00 Boxing 23:00 Eurogolf 00:00 Eurogolf 1:00 Euro-sport news	Formula 1 18:30 Formula 3000 19:30 Euro-sport news 20:00 Speed world 22:00 Boxing 23:00 Eurogolf 00:00 Eurogolf 1:00 Euro-sport news
PRIME SPORTS	6:30 Formula 7:30 Formula 8:30 Tennis 10:00 Chinese soccer 12:00 Aerobics 12:30 Talking baseball 13:00 World sports magazine 14:00 European soccer 15:00 Golf 17:00 US Open 22:00 Golf 00:00 Euro-sport news 1:00 Talking baseball	6:30 Formula 7:30 Formula 8:30 Tennis 10:00 Chinese soccer 12:00 Aerobics 12:30 Talking baseball 13:00 World sports magazine 14:00 European soccer 15:00 Golf 17:00 US Open 22:00 Golf 00:00 Euro-sport news 1:00 Talking baseball
TUESDAY AUGUST 30		
CHANNEL 5	6:30 Bodies in motion 16:00 Bodies in motion 16:30 Gymnastics 17:00 Basketball: Hapoel TA v Maccabi TA (pt) 18:30 Table tennis 20:00 English soccer 21:00 Sports med 21:30 Horse show from Ireland 22:00 Brazilian soccer 00:30 Surfing from TA	6:30 Bodies in motion 16:00 Bodies in motion 16:30 Gymnastics 17:00 Basketball: Hapoel TA v Maccabi TA (pt) 18:30 Table tennis 20:00 English soccer 21:00 Sports med 21:30 Horse show from Ireland 22:00 Brazilian soccer 00:30 Surfing from TA
PRIME SPORTS	6:00 Golf 7:30 Live superlatives from Japan 8:30 Selling 10:00 International sports magazine 11:00 Mondial 11:30 Chinese soccer 12:00 Live Chinese soccer 14:00 Live formula 1 from Belgium 16:00 Tennis 18:00 Superlatives 20:00 Formula 1 from Belgium 22:00 Golf 00:00 Mondial 00:30 Chinese soccer	6:00 Golf 7:30 Live superlatives from Japan 8:30 Selling 10:00 International sports magazine 11:00 Mondial 11:30 Chinese soccer 12:00 Live Chinese soccer 14:00 Live formula 1 from Belgium 16:00 Tennis 18:00 Superlatives 20:00 Formula 1 from Belgium 22:00 Golf 00:00 Mondial 00:30 Chinese soccer
MONDAY AUGUST 29		
CHANNEL 5	6:30 Bodies in motion 13:00 Premier League: Liverpool v Arsenal 15:10 World rafting championship 16:00 Bodies in motion 18:30 Horse racing 18:30 Beach volleyball 19:00 Basketball special for the Tel Aviv Maccabi TA 22:00 English soccer 00:40 Basketball: Hapoel TA v Maccabi TA (pt)	6:30 Bodies in motion 13:00 Premier League: Liverpool v Arsenal 15:10 World rafting championship 16:00 Bodies in motion 18:30 Horse racing 18:30 Beach volleyball 19:00 Basketball special for the Tel Aviv Maccabi TA 22:00 English soccer 00:40 Basketball: Hapoel TA v Maccabi TA (pt)
EUROSPORT	8:30 Aerobics 9:00 Golf 11:00 Athletics 13:00 Formula 1 from Belgium 14:00 Cycling 15:00 Tennis 17:00 Ski jumping 17:30	8:30 Aerobics 9:00 Golf 11:00 Athletics 13:00 Formula 1 from Belgium 14:00 Cycling 15:00 Tennis 17:00 Ski jumping 17:30
WEDNESDAY AUGUST 31		
CHANNEL 5	6:30 Bodies in motion 16:00 Horse show from Ireland 18:00 Bodies in motion 18:30 Table tennis 17:30 Replay 18:00 Sumo 18:45 (to be announced) 20:30 Israeli bas-	6:30 Bodies in motion 16:00 Horse show from Ireland 18:00 Bodies in motion 18:30 Table tennis 17:30 Replay 18:00 Sumo 18:45 (to be announced) 20:30 Israeli bas-
PRIME SPORTS	6:00 European soccer 7:00 Goodwill Games 9:00 Tennis 12:30 Baseball 13:00 WWF 14:00 Triathlon 15:00 Golf 16:00 Blood, sweat and glory 17:00 US Open 22:00 Goodwill games 00:00 Triathlon 1:00 Baseball	6:00 European soccer 7:00 Goodwill Games 9:00 Tennis 12:30 Baseball 13:00 WWF 14:00 Triathlon 15:00 Golf 16:00 Blood, sweat and glory 17:00 US Open 22:00 Goodwill games 00:00 Triathlon 1:00 Baseball
THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 1		
CHANNEL 5	6:30 Bodies in motion 15:00 Irish horse show 16:00 Bodies in motion 17:00 English league soccer 18:00 Australian football 17:00 US Open 22:00 Athletics 1:00 Chinese league soccer	6:30 Bodies in motion 15:00 Irish horse show 16:00 Bodies in motion 17:00 English league soccer 18:00 Australian football 17:00 US Open 22:00 Athletics 1:00 Chinese league soccer
PRIME SPORTS	6:00 Water sports magazine 7:00 Goodwill Games 9:00 Tennis 12:30 Athletics 13:00 Chinese soccer 16:00 Australian rugby 17:00 US Open 22:00 Athletics 1:00 Chinese league soccer	6:00 Water sports magazine 7:00 Goodwill Games 9:00 Tennis 12:30 Athletics 13:00 Chinese soccer 16:00 Australian rugby 17:00 US Open 22:00 Athletics 1:00 Chinese league soccer
FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 2		
CHANNEL 5	6:30 Bodies in motion 15:00 Irish horse show 16:00 Bodies in motion 17:00 English league soccer 18:00 Australian football 17:00 US Open 22:00 Athletics 1:00 Chinese league soccer	6:30 Bodies in motion 15:00 Irish horse show 16:00 Bodies in motion 17:00 English league soccer 18:00 Australian football 17:00 US Open 22:00 Athletics 1:00 Chinese league soccer
PRIME SPORTS	6:00 Water sports magazine 7:00 Goodwill Games 9:00 Tennis 12:30 Athletics 13:00 Chinese soccer 16:00 Australian rugby 17:00 US Open 22:00 Athletics 1:00 Chinese league soccer	6:00 Water sports magazine 7:00 Goodwill Games 9:00 Tennis 12:30 Athletics 13:00 Chinese soccer 16:00 Australian rugby 17:00 US Open 22:00 Athletics 1:00 Chinese league soccer



AROUND THE WORLD

Location	Temp	Weather
Amsterdam	12-18	cloudy
Berlin	12-18	cloudy
Bombay	28-34	cloudy
Brussels	12-18	cloudy
Chicago	12-18	cloudy
Frankfurt	12-18	cloudy
Geneva	12-18	cloudy
Hong Kong	28-34	cloudy
London	12-18	cloudy
Los Angeles	12-18	cloudy
Madrid	12-18	cloudy
Moscow	12-18	cloudy
New York	12-18	cloudy
Paris	12-18	cloudy
Rome	12-18	cloudy
Stockholm	12-18	cloudy
Tokyo	12-18	cloudy
Vienna	12-18	cloudy

WHERE TO GO

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JERUSALEM
Conducted Tours
HEBREW UNIVERSITY. Tours of the Mount Scopus campus, in English, daily Sun-Thurs. 11 a.m. from Berman Recreation Center, Sherman Administration Bldg. Buses 44, 9, 23, 26, 28. For info, call 882818.
AMIT Women. For a free conducted tour of the Temple Mount, call 882818.
TEL AVIV
Museums
TEL AVIV MUSEUM OF ART. The museum is closed for maintenance work, and will reopen on Sep. 7. **HELENA RUBINSTEIN PAVILION FOR CONTEMPORARY ART.** Temporarily closed; reopens Sept. 16. **Aviz Education Center.** Tel. 882818.
ORT. To visit our technological High Schools, call Jerusalem 513141; Tel Aviv 520222, 520293; Netanya 823744.
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HAIFA
WHAT'S ON IN HAIFA, dial 04-374253.

GENERAL ASSISTANCE

EMERGENCY PHARMACIES

DUTY HOSPITALS

POLICE 100

FIRE 102

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CRITIC'S CHOICE

HELEN KAYE
SINGER/songwriter Erika Pluhar and guitarist Antonio D'Almeida present My Songs. Idiosyncratic, often autobiographical, Pluhar's songs have a following in her native Vienna and are laced with that city's particular brand of humor. At ZOA House in Tel Aviv at 8:30 p.m. today.

INSTALLATION
HELEN KAYE
SINCE June 20, courtesy of the British Council, UK artist Christopher Bucklow has been building *Guest*, an installation in the Herzliya Museum grounds within the framework of the European Union recycling project.

CLASSICAL MUSIC
MICHAEL AJZENSTADT
UZI Wiesel and Bernard Greenhouse, two of the most eminent cellists and cello teachers around these days, work with young cellists at the first

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TELEVISION

CHANNEL 1
6:30 News in Arabic 8:45 Cartoon 7:00 Good Morning Israel

EDUCATIONAL TV
8:00 The Moonies 8:25 Mrs. Pepper 8:35 Surprise Train 9:00 Animal Adventures 9:10 Mother Goose - cartoon 9:30 Discoveries Unlimited 10:00 Family Relations 10:30 Ramona 11:00 Summer Fun 12:30 Young Riders 13:30 Mystery House (last part) 14:00 Rehov Sumsat 14:30 Dolphin - cartoon series 15:00 Mom P.I.

CHANNEL 1
15:30 Asterix - cartoon series based on the comics character 16:00 News update 16:05 Asterix (cont'd) 16:45 UFO Coming - program on UFO safety 17:00 A New Evening 7:30 Townies 17:55 Heisthiff 18:15 News in English

ARABIC PROGRAMS
18:30 As Is Said - fables 18:45 Innovations and Inventions 19:00 News in Arabic

HEBREW PROGRAMS
19:30 Love at First Sight - British series of international love stories 20:00 Water 21:00 Candid Camera 21:30 Watergate scandal Part 4 22:30 Summer Talks - Director Haim Gil meets people in Israeli society 23:00 Late-night news 23:10 Telltale - three-part British suspense series about underworld power and the effect it has on the family lives of two detectives. Starring Bernard Hill, Nigel Harrison

CHANNEL 2
11:00 Nitzmatz in Dreamland - cartoon 11:30 Around the World in 80 Dreams 12:00 My Favorite Year (1982) - A young writer of a top comedy show in 1954 must watch over the guests star, a star of adventure films who off-screen with a story about a young woman who makes a living by reading to customers and getting mixed up in strange erotic adventures with them. Starring Mimi Mouton 23:40 Baby the Rain Must Fall (1965) - Lee Remick and her daughter travel to a Southern town to join up with her husband Steve McQueen who has been released from jail. But he returns to his violent ways and divides the family.

DISCOVERY CHANNEL (8)
Open University: Art and Culture 11:00 Story of American Greats 12:00 Underwater World 13:00 Great Wall of Iron 14:00 Open University 20:00 Pacific Outdoors 20:30 The Dream Chasers 21:00 Spinning Out 22:00 Beyond 2000 23:00 Great Wall of Iron 00:00 Open University

JORDAN TV (unofficial)
16:00 Programs in French 17:30 News in French 18:00 News in Hebrew 18:15 FBI: Untold Stories 19:00 News in Arabic 20:00 The McGraw-Hill 21:30 NBA 22:00 News in English 21:20 The House of Eliott

MIDDLE EAST TV
13:00 Winning Walk 13:30 John Osteen 14:00 In Touch 15:00 Foundations of a Happy Family 15:30 Film: Beneath the 12 Mile Reef - Murderous conspiracy between strong divers. Starring Robert Wagner, Gilbert Roland 17:15 IVF Wrestling 18:00 Middle East TV Sports Hour 19:00 World News Tonight (Arabic) 19:30 CNN Headline News 20:00 NBA Action Show 21:30 NBA 22:30 Answers 23:00 Film: Breaking the Ice - Ice-skating troupe on tour encounters fun, romance and trouble. Starring Bobby Brown, Charles Ruggles

FAMILY CHANNEL (3)
8:00 Local Broadcast 9:00 One Life to Live 9:45 The Young and the Restless 10:00 Guess in the Living Room 11:00 Love Lucy 11:30 Antenna 12:15 Murphy Brown 12:45 Falcon Crest 13:30 Coach 14:00 Israeli clips 14:10 Danger-

CABLE

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CABLE

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RADIO

VOICE OF MUSIC
6:00 Morning Songs 7:07 Works by Eric Coates: London Suite, The Giant and The Dam Busters March (Radio Bratislava SO) 8:05 Solo: Sinfonia Concertante in F for 2 clarinets; Chopin: Fantasy on Polish Airs op 13 (Orchestra); Schubert: Concerto in F for piano and orchestra op 86 (Rimon) 9:00 Rossini: Sonata no 1 in G for strings; Mozart: Piano concerto no 23; Weber: Sonata no 2 in A flat for flute and piano op 38 (Nicola, Bernan); Schubert: Symphony no 5 2:10:35 Smetana: Trio in G minor for piano, violin and cello op 15 (Beaux Arts); Dvorak: Gypsy Melodies (Ivan, Fikunsky); R. Strauss: Sonata in E flat for violin and piano op 18; Suk: Sere; nade in E flat for strings op 6 2:12:15 Martinu: Rhapsody-Concerto for violin and orchestra Charles Camilleri: Mediterra; nean Concerto for piano and orchestra; Tchaikovsky: Swan Lake, excerpts 14:00 Franck: Sonata in A for violin and piano; Boccherini: Cello concerto in B flat; Mendelssohn: Overture in E flat for strings op 20 (Vienna Soloists); Mozart: Symphony no 38 (Berlin POFBHM) 16:00 Music for organ (Albin), Cantata no 169 "Gott soll allein mein Herz begehren" (Uuno Klamari; Paalme oratorio 18:00 From the Recording Studio - Allon Goldstein and Ben-Zion Oren: Sonata in E flat "Farewell"; Ben-Zion Oren: Homage to the Piano; Chopin: Concerto no 3 in C sharp minor op 26; Debussy: Preludes no 7-12 from Book 1 18:05 Vivid: Sonata in A for violin, cello and harpsichord; Mozart: 6 Variations on Holes, 1st perdue mon amant K360 for violin and piano; Schubert: 1st dan Sturm for voice, horn and piano; Dvorak: Shapochnikov: Sonata for flute and harp; Villa-Lobos: Sexteto mistico, Ana from Bachianas Brasileiras no 5 20:00 From Our Concert Halls - 1st Israeli Festival Jerusalem 1993. Music: Symphony no 2 (Wiener Sinfonieorchester) Leon Lezion SO/Kaplan; 2) Chen Zimbalista and friends 23:00 (S) Sounds to End the Day

RADIO 2
6:00 This Morning - news magazine 8:00 The Middle - 10:00 The Middle 12:00 Middle - news, commentary, music 14:05 Magic Moments 15:05 Foreign Affairs 15:45 Foreign Press 16:05 The Color of Music 17:05 Hebrew songs 18:05 Today - news 19:05 Hebrew songs 21:05 News headlines 21:15 Hebrew songs 23:05 Hebrew songs 00:05 Midnight Magazine 00:30 Hebrew Love, continued 1:05 Into the Night 5:05 First Light

RADIO 3
Music all day and night

REKA
18:00 News in English 18:15 News in French 20:00 News in Russian

ARMY RADIO
5:02 Hebrew songs 6:00 Announcements 6:05 Hebrew songs 6:30 Good Morning Israel 7:07 Seven-0 Seven 8:00 Good Morning Israel 9:05 Hebrew songs 10:05 Right for the Summer 12:30 Today's News 13:05 Hebrew songs 13:15 The Heat's Calendar 15:05 Someone to Talk To 16:00 An Hour Before 17:00 Good Evening Israel 18:05 Economics 18:30 End of the Day 20:00 Summer Songs 21:05 Music Inside 21:05 Paranoia 22:05 Music Inside 23:05 This Was the Day 00:10 Night Birds 2:00 We Don't Want to Sleep

ARMY ON WHEELS
7:05 The State on the Way 9:05 Hebrew songs 11:05 News 13:05 Air Condition: 14:05 Summer Songs 15:05 Program with Didi Lantz 16:05 Driving Wisely 18:05 Program with Lea Of 20:05 Drive in 22:05 Good Night

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Rabin implores Meretz to let Shas back in coalition

MICHAEL YUDELMAN

MERETZ'S Knesset faction is to decide this week whether to agree to Shas's terms for returning to the coalition, following Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin's request Friday that Meretz enable Shas to rejoin the government.

Rabin, who met Meretz's ministers in his Tel Aviv bureau Friday morning, pressed them to remove their objections to Shas's entering the government, despite the haredi party's insistence on anchoring the religious status quo in legislation. Meretz strongly opposes this condition, saying such legislation would give religious law priority over human rights legislation and Supreme Court rulings, turning Israel into a theocracy.

According to Environment Minister Yossi Sarid, Rabin said at the meeting that he would not try to persuade Meretz to accept this clause of the coalition agreement,

and that Meretz would not be bound by it.

It was "quite all right with him [Rabin] if we announce that we are not bound to that agreement, and if the issue of legislation pertaining to the status quo comes up, we are at liberty to fight against it and vote against it in the cabinet," Sarid said.

However, Rabin stressed that he wanted Meretz's ministers to vote in support of Shas's joining the government, Sarid added.

Shas last week rejected Meretz's proposal to renounce its demand for religious legislation. Meretz had suggested instead that a high-ranking committee of legal experts, headed by Justice Minister David Liba'i, examine every case of conflict between a religious law and a civil rights law.

Under this proposal, presented to Rabin by Communications Minister Shulamit Aloni, the committee would submit its recommendations to the prime minister, who would decide on whether to try to resolve the conflict through legislation or not.

Shas, however, rejected this proposal, and reiterated its condition for religious legislation. Shas threatened that if Rabin does not accept its terms by the High Holy Days, it would join the opposition and help the Likud topple the government and force early elections.

Sarid would not reveal what position he would take at Meretz's faction meeting, scheduled for Wednesday. But he noted that "none of Meretz's ministers committed himself or herself to any position" at Friday's meeting with Ra-

bin, which he described as "relaxed, pleasant and to the point."

Meretz sources agree that Sarid himself supports Rabin's position of enabling Shas to return to the coalition, even if it means agreeing to its conditions concerning religious legislation. Two meetings between Rabin and Meretz's ministers to discuss the issue last week were canceled by the prime minister, because Sarid could not attend them.

Item adds: The Supreme Rabbinical Court is due to hear a petition today by a group calling itself Disappointed Shas Voters, which wants the court to forbid Shas to join the coalition.

The group had petitioned the rabbinical court a month ago, but then the court ruled it was a matter for Shas's own internal court. But the internal court never discussed the matter, so the group petitioned again.

Court rejects petition against early change to standard time

EVELYN GORDON

THE High Court of Justice threw out a petition on Friday asking that the end of daylight saving time be delayed, saying it was unconscionable for the petitioner to have brought such a demand two days before the change was due to take place.

Summer time officially ended last night at midnight with clocks turning back one hour. The Palestinian Authority announced that summer time in the areas under their control will end on Thursday.

The petition was filed by Tel Aviv attorney Amnon Ben-Dror and his Association for Freedom from Religious Coercion. Ben-Dror asked that the return to standard time be postponed until October 1, on the grounds this would benefit the population at large. Having darkness come later saves electricity, cuts down on traffic accidents and crime, and means that people spend less hours at work or school during the heat of the day, he argued.

The early return to standard time, he said, is merely a surrender to the demands of religious Sephardim, who say penitential prayers at dawn for a month before Rosh Hashana, and who therefore prefer an earlier dawn.

However, Justices Aharon Barak, Mishael Cheshin and Dalia Dorner refused to even consider these arguments, saying Ben-Dror had no right to come at

the last minute and ask that the entire country's schedule be disrupted.

"[The time setting] has international significance," Barak said. "[The date of the change] is known well in advance, and we don't play around with it. It is impossible for the court to issue an order on Friday that winter time shouldn't start Saturday night. People have planned around [the change]."

"A country cannot be run in this fashion," Cheshin added.

Nili Arad, head of the Justice Ministry's High Court division, noted that by law, the time changes must be set three years in advance. While the Interior Minister and the Knesset Interior Committee together have the right to alter the dates, the alteration must be announced no less than six months in advance of the actual change.

"This petition has no place in court," the justices wrote in their decision, noting that in addition to its last-minute nature, the petitioners had failed to apply to any of the relevant authorities first or to submit any material supporting their claims. "This is the epitome of a useless petition."

As a lawyer, the justices added, Ben-Dror should have known better. They therefore fined him NIS 5,000 in court costs.

Tsubari's remand extended for eight days

A TEL AVIV Magistrate's Court judge on Friday ordered the remand of Eylon Tsubari extended for eight days, only hours after a different judge ordered him released on NIS 500,000 bail for a related crime.

Tsubari, the former deputy managing director of Gmulet, which manages the provident funds of Bank Hapoalim, had his remand extended by Judge Nira Diskin, for allegations relating to stock manipulation.

He had been released on bail earlier by Judge George Cara, after having been convicted of obstructing justice and harassing witnesses during the investigation of the stock manipulation charges. Tsubari had confessed to the obstruction and harassment charges.

Cara had accepted the defense's argument that Tsubari could be released, since he had been convicted and had promised to refrain from contacting any of the witnesses.

But upon completion of the hearing before Cara, a second hearing was held before Diskin, relating to the allegations of stock manipulation. Tsubari has yet to be indicted in that case.

By Friday, Tsubari had been held 82 days on those allegations. By law, he will have to be released after 90 days unless he is formally charged.

His attorney argued that since there is no indictment in the offing, there was no point in holding Tsubari any longer.

But Diskin accepted the arguments of the Security Authority's lawyer that it was necessary to hold him as long as possible to prevent damage to the investigation, and she extended the remand to the maximum possible. (Itim)

Report: Ivry in India

ALON PINKAS

DEFENSE Ministry Director-General David Ivry will this week reportedly complete a five-day official visit to India, where he is discussing expanding Israeli-Indian defense cooperation, according to an Indian newspaper.

While *The Indian Express* reported Ivry's visit on Thursday, the IDF censor originally banned publication of the visit; this despite Israel having full diplomatic relations with India for over two years, and despite the full coverage of Foreign Minister Shimon Peres's official visit to New Delhi in May 1993.

Meanwhile, PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat said yesterday that Pakistani Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto will visit Gaza soon after all. Arafat told reporters in Gaza City that Bhutto will visit "next

week." There was no confirmation from Pakistan.

Ivry, who arrived in New Delhi late Wednesday night, is reciprocating the visit to Israel last year of his Indian counterpart, and is also to meet with the Indian General Staff. He is accompanied by Kuti Mor, head of foreign relations at the Defense Ministry, according to an official ministry spokesman.

Ivry's visit, said the Indian newspaper, will open the way to expanding Israeli-Indian defense relations.

Israel has a permanent representative of the defense industries in the embassy in New Delhi. Foreign reports in the past said India and Israel have increased their cooperation on satellite technology. India has also reportedly purchased laser-guided munitions from Israel.

Ministry: Stronger pupils fleeing schools with many Ethiopians

AMIR ROZENBLIT

THE Education Ministry is concerned at an apparently growing wave of transfers by high-achieving pupils from schools with a large concentration of Ethiopian immigrant youngsters.

The director of the ministry's southern district, Dr. Amram Melitz, said on Friday the phenomenon is particularly grave in Arad, where about 80 percent of the top pupils have transferred to another school due to what is said to be the negative image of the Ethiopian newcomers.

The result of this flight is unusually large concentrations of Ethiopians at certain schools. At Arad's Talim state religious school, for example, 60 percent of the pupils are of Ethiopian descent.

Melitz called the situation in Arad a "catastrophe," which has severely harmed the local educational system and has forced him to open separate classes for the Ethiopian pupils.

However, the problem is not confined to children of Ethiopian background, Melitz said, but includes children from other countries, such as Uzbekistan and other Muslim republics of the CIS.

In certain schools their concentration reaches 40 percent, Melitz said, and "this has brought down the level of the educational system ... This is a dangerous socio-educational time bomb in the long run."

The problem exists in Beersheba, Ofakim, Netivot, and Kiryat Gat as well, said Melitz.

Girl drowns off Herzliya beach

A five-year-old girl drowned off the Sidna Ali beach in Herzliya Friday afternoon.

The girl, a Nabulus resident, was at the beach with her family, when they suddenly saw her floating in the water. She died on the way to Kfar Sava's Meir Hospital. (Itim)



Minister of Housing and Construction Ben-Zion Ben-Eliezer (left) on Friday accepts an aerial photograph of Lev Hasharon from the chairman of the regional council. (Yisrael Hadari)

Husseini: Report in 'Post' is part of smear campaign

PLO Jerusalem Minister Faisal Hussein on Friday charged the Israeli media with running a smear campaign against Orient House, headquarters of the Palestinian team negotiating with Israel.

"Certain Israeli communications media are conducting a smear campaign against Orient House," Hussein told an interviewer from Agence France Presse. "Orient House will continue to fulfill its function and serve our nation," he said.

Hussein mentioned an article in Friday's *Jerusalem Post*, which said the PLO is investigating the embezzlement of some \$5 million from Orient House. The *Post* reported that PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat had appointed self-rule areas security chief Jibril Rajoub to head the investigation.

Rajoub strenuously denied the report. "If \$5 million had been embezzled, it would mean the Orient House budget was in the hundreds of millions," he said.

Rajoub added that the report was part of a defamation campaign aimed at harming Hussein and embarrassing the PLO, which includes Israel's claim that the PLO is conducting police activities in Jerusalem. (AFP)

Haifa women demonstrate against violence to their peers

SASHA SADAN

SOME 70 women demonstrated at Haifa's Beit Hakranot on Friday and condemned violence against women in Israeli society. The murders of seven women in the last month, either by family relatives or boyfriends, were the backdrop for the protest organized by several Haifa groups.

Nathalie Brochstein of Woman to Woman said yesterday the strong turnout for the protest showed that "women are frustrated and scared." Such demonstrations are important for women who are beaten at home to show them "this isn't the way it's supposed to be," she said.

Brochstein said the recent murders are not isolated incidents, but representative of a society "which finds romantic names for the context of the deaths, such as family honor killings; but the fact is that it's murder. Every time I open the newspaper, there is something else, another act of violence against women." She noted that Hebrew lacks a word for "femicide," and said women being beaten or killed is not considered that terrible. "Nobody is doing anything about it," she said.

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Poll: Rabin leads Netanyahu by a point

An opinion poll published Friday showed Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin at his worst popularity rating since he took office in 1992.

The *Yediot Aharonot* survey put him only one point ahead of Likud chairman Benjamin Netanyahu, with 45 percent saying they would vote for Rabin and 44 percent for the Likud leader.

The poll, conducted by the Dabaf institute over the telephone this week of 514 Israelis, also showed the Labor Party losing ground to Likud.

Petah Tikva bank robbed

Two men wearing motorcycle helmets robbed a Bank Hapoalim branch in Petah Tikva, taking off with an estimated NIS 300,000 in two large sacks.

The two threatened bank workers with a pistol and a Galil rifle, and then stole the money sacks, which were to be loaded onto a Brinks truck. They apparently were aware that this transfer was about to take place.

They then left the bank, warned passersby not to interfere, and zoomed off on motorcycles. (Itim)

Three charged in Givatayim bombing

Three men were charged Friday by Tel Aviv District Court in the explosion of a small bomb in Givatayim August 6.

Ofer Ben-Baruch, 18, of Ramat Gan, was charged with possessing and transporting explosives, and planning to cause damage with them. He was apparently planning to destroy his father's barber shop with the homemade bomb.

Uri Levy, 54, of Givat Shmuel, and Ben Levy, 20, of Givatayim, were charged with complicity in trying to cover up the crime.

Ben-Baruch allegedly concealed the device near the barber shop the day before he planned to use it. On August 6, while on his way to plant the device, it exploded and wounded him in the leg and hand. (Itim)

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Celebration

Marking the End of Israel Environment Year 1994

Sunday, August 28, 1994, 8 p.m., Wohl Auditorium, Ganai Yehoshua, Tel Aviv



To the Environment with Love

Songs on the environment by local groups

Environmental dance performance

Greetings by Environment Minister, Yossi Sarid; Director General, Environment Ministry, Dr. Israel Peleg; Director, Information Center, Ya'acov Shatz.

Multimedia Presentation - "The Quality of the Environment Affects Us."

Ra'anana Symphonette - playing works on the environment.

Environment Minister, Yossi Sarid, will pass the baton to Tourism Minister, Uzi Baram, who will inaugurate Israel Peace Tourism Year 5755.

M.C. Naftali Ran, coordinator, Israel Environment Year 1994 - coordinator, Israel Peace Tourism Year 5755.

Friends of the Environment and a Clean Atmosphere (and those willing to sign up as Clean-Up volunteers) and of Peace Tourism are invited to the event with their families.